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Health consultation is fatally-flawed says MP

By Samantha McGregor

A POLITICIAN is calling for a consultation over proposals to change health services in the county to "halt".

North Oxfordshire's Conservative MP, Victoria Prentis, has raised concerns about the quality of the current consultation and says she is worried about the impact of the proposals on the Horton General Hospital.

It comes after Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group launched a major consultation in January.

It will take place in two stages, which Mrs Prentis says is "fatally flawed" because people are not seeing the full picture.

Among the proposals are fewer inpatient beds, a central stroke unit in Oxford and a permanent midwife-led unit at Banbury's Horton Hospital.

Phase two will review accident and emergency services, paediatric services and midwife-led maternity units.

Mrs Prentis said all the proposed changes to the county's health services should be consulted on in one go.

Last month, during a debate in Parliament about health and social care, Mrs Prentis said: "One of the difficulties with the consultation process is that lay people - of whom I am one - are not given sufficient evidence to enable them fully to engage with the system and to have trust in the trusts that are seeking to engage them."

She is now calling on the clinical commissioning group to "halt" the current consultation and relaunch just one setting out all the proposals.

She said: "It is clear from my own research, and the discussions that I have had with colleagues, that the current consultation process, commissioned by our CCG, is not good enough."

"We are not being provided with the full picture, and I am deeply concerned about the future of the Horton and other vital health services."

"This consultation is, in my view, fatally flawed."

"True consultation involves offering options on which the consultees can comment having seen the evidence. They need to make informed choices."

"This is not the case here. The Oxfordshire CCG must pause their consultation until they are ready to consult on all health services, together."

"Safety of patients should be paramount. Splitting the consultation does not give us a sense that it is a genuine process and it must be stopped."

Campaign group Keep The Horton General (KTHG) has been working behind the scenes to ensure people have their say on the plans.

It has staged awareness events, which include a panel of speakers including health professionals.

The most recent took place last



• Continues on page 3

• Demonstrators make their feelings known outside St Mary's Church, Banbury. Inset: MP Victoria Prentis

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Group is published by Taylor
Newspapers Ltd.

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Death crash driver told 'only you are to blame'

By Adam Flinn

A DRIVER who caused the death of a 28-year-old man on the A34 at East Ilsley after crashing into his car while he was on the phone has been jailed.

Lewis Stratford, 24, of Field Avenue in Oxford, was sentenced to three years and eight months in prison at Reading Crown Court last Friday.

He had pleaded guilty to causing the death of Gavin Roberts, an Australian who was living in Swindon, following the crash on June 11 last year.

The court heard on Friday that Stratford had been driving southbound on the A34 to see his girlfriend, who he had been arguing with.

His girlfriend had said to him not to come down, warning him not to drive because of the emotional state he was in.

However he did, and he made a number of calls and sent texts to her over an extended period of time, and was on the phone to her at the time of the crash.

Stratford went through the central reservation onto the northbound carriageway, smashing into Mr Roberts' BMW coming the other way.

Both were taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, and Mr Roberts died four days

• The wreckage of Gavin's BMW (Picture courtesy of TVP)
Inset: Lewis Stratford (Picture courtesy of INS)



later from a severe head injury.

Prosecuting, Alan Blake said that in addition to being on his phone, Stratford was also going above the speed limit, although because of the damage to the car an accurate reading of his speed at the time couldn't be provided.

In defence, Giles Newell said that Stratford was a man of previous good character, and that he is "wracked with guilt and shame" over what happened.

Sentencing, Judge Stephen John said: "You deliberately engaged in the calls made to you and, more importantly, deliberately made the longer calls which led right up to the moment of this tragedy, while

you were in a highly emotional and distracted state.

"You rightly accept that your heightened emotional condition, which not long before the collision involved you screaming down the phone at your girlfriend, was such that you should not have been behind the wheel at all.

"The simple fact is that this successful, popular and promising young man would be alive today if you had not behaved so irresponsibly. Only you are to blame."

The sentencing came two days after stronger laws came into force over driving while using a phone, with those caught now facing a minimum

of six penalty points and a £200 fine.

Following the sentencing, senior investigating officer Sgt Beth Walton said: "This case tragically evidences that distractions while driving do have and will continue to have catastrophic consequences.

"I would ask people to think about the consequences. If you speed, if you use your mobile phone while driving, then stop doing it and encourage those that you know who also do it to stop.

"While this sentencing will never bring Gavin back, I hope it will allow his family and friends to have a sense of closure."



• Crash victim Gavin Roberts

Tributes to great mate

GAVIN Roberts' family have paid tribute to a "great mate" and "the light of my life" following the sentencing of Lewis Stratford on Friday.

During the hearing Gavin's dad Geoff and partner Meg Williamson read out tributes, alongside a statement from his mum Rose Joshua.

Ms Joshua's statement was described as "astonishing" by Judge Stephen John after she forgave Stratford.

It read: "Lewis Stratford, I want you to know that you have my forgiveness and compassion. Do not allow yourself to be destroyed by what happened."

Gavin's dad Geoff said: "He was a great mate to me. He was a great guy, a delightful person, and I am very proud that he was my son."

Gavin's girlfriend Meg said: "Gavin was the light of my life. He had an amazing ability to make everyone he met feel special.

"But life is different now. I miss Gavin every day, and will never forget that cheeky smile and geeky laugh.

"Goodnight my angel."

Tough new penalties for driving on phone

A JOURNALIST was among the first caught out by the new penalty laws on mobile phone use behind the wheel while she was en-route to cover the police operation.

The female reporter was given a £200 fine and six points on her licence after being stopped by police in Ock Street, Abingdon, on the first day of a national week of enforcement.

Police officers flagged down the woman who was heard saying she was on her way to cover the enforcement of the new laws.

Channel 5 News journalist Dominic Reynolds tweeted: "Breaking Irony News: a journalist driving here to cover phone/driving crackdown has just been busted: £200, 6pts."

New legislation for penalties that came into effect on March 1 will mean double penalty points for long-term drivers. Newly-qualified drivers caught will have to retake their test and theory exam.

People caught twice face disqualification and fines of up to £1,000.

Previously, using a handheld device while driving incurred three points and a

£100 fine. Any offenders aged under 21 who have held a licence for two years or less will automatically lose their licence.

The National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme awareness course will no longer be routinely offered as an alternative to a fixed penalty notice, although officers can use their discretion.

Between 2014 and 2016, there were 145 collisions across the Thames Valley where using a mobile phone while driving may have been a contributory factor. Eleven people died and 195 people were injured.

Supt Simon Dodds, of the joint roads policing unit across the Thames Valley and Hampshire forces, said: "There is never an excuse for someone to be using their mobile phone while driving and this change in legislation sends a clear message that it will not be tolerated.

"The increased penalties better reflect the seriousness of such driver behaviour, and the consequences it can have.

"All too often, my officers are faced with the devastation caused by motorists."



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Quest begins to celebrate 'unsung heroes' of town

By Samantha McGregor

THAME residents are being urged to nominate their "unsung hero" to receive a community award.

Nominations have opened for the ninth annual Thame Town Awards organised by the town council.

The idea of the scheme is to say thank you to the town's unsung heroes who year on year help their neighbours, support local groups or go out of their way to help others in their community.

Since the Town Awards was first launched a total of 48 individuals, organisations and businesses have been recognised for their contribution to Thame.

Residents should nominate people "who they think deserves some recognition" across five categories.

These are lifetime achievement, volunteer of the year, creative arts achievement, sporting achievement and service with a smile.

In a statement, the council said: "Each year the council invites members of the public to nominate their local unsung heroes, and this year is no different.

"They want you to tell them about individuals and groups who have made a special contribution to life in Thame.

"This could be a volunteer, a teacher, a shop worker, someone old, someone young - pretty much anyone."

One of last year's winners, Angela Willson, said she was "delighted" with her Voluntary Individual award.

She said: "I was totally surprised to be nominated for the Voluntary Individual award in 2016.

"I have had the privilege of being part of Lea Park Residents' Association for many years and this had opened up opportunities to take part in a number of Thame projects such as Thame Tidy Day.

"In the past I have attended the Thame Town Awards event that highlights the wide range of activities and services that are organised by ordinary Thame citizens.

"I am thankful to those who nominate others for recognition of their contribution to the life of Thame."

The closing date is Monday, April 3. The Town Awards panel will whittle down the entries and winners will be revealed at a ceremony on May 4.

To make a nomination visit thametowncouncil.gov.uk/town-awards or drop into the council office in High Street to pick up a voting form.



• One of last year's winners Angela Willson (left), pictured with 2015/16 mayor Nichola Dixon (now deputy mayor)

News Bites

Bargain hunt

OXON: Antiques hunters can look for bargains at a fair at Steeple Aston, in North Oxfordshire, on March 18 and 19.

This year's event will be 25 per cent bigger as organisers have taken on a fourth room.

Items include art deco bronzes and ceramics, framed prints, posters and period advertising from the 1920s and 1930s, as well as porcelain, jewellery and furniture.

Parish split plan

N OXON: People have until March 17 to take part in the first round of a consultation over plans to split Heyford Park and Upper Heyford into two separate parishes.

Cherwell District Council is proposing to redraw boundaries and create a new parish called Heyford Park.

Up to 1,600 homes will be built at the former US Air Force base and Upper Heyford Parish Council says the development and the village need separate governance.

Post office move

BICESTER: A consultation is under way over plans to relocate Launton Post Office to nearby Costcutter.

Under the plans the post office would open Monday to Friday, from 7am to 8pm, on Saturday from 7.30am to 8pm and Sundays, 8am to 2pm.

The Post Office said the move was in agreement with the current postmaster.

Proposals 'improve safety and quality of care'

Continued from front page

Thursday at St Mary's Church, Banbury, and was attended by about 150 people according to KTHG.

Among the speakers was Youssef El-Gingihy, national

campaigner; GP and author Dr Peter Fisher, a retired consultant who worked at the Horton Hospital; and Banbury GP Dr Hugh Gillies.

Campaigners also joined a national demonstration in Lon-

don on Saturday. A spokesman for Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group said: "The current proposals to improve the safety and quality of patient care locally were developed following discussions with the public,

patients, NHS leaders, nurses and doctors across Oxfordshire on how we can create a better local NHS.

"The feedback helped shape proposals which are also based on clinical evidence, best prac-

tice and adherence to clinical guidance."

People have until mid-April to make their view known. For more information visit consult.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/consult.ti/system/register

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Luvvly bubbly!

CHILDREN in Banbury explored the science of bubbles when they were invited to a special educational science session.

Working alongside Sanctuary Housing, the Sunshine Centre in Bretch Hill played host to Explorer Dome, a mobile science show, which provided demonstrations to more than 50 young people and their parents.

The children got involved with experiments that explored the unexpected behaviour of

bubbles and investigated how they can float, sink, grow, burn and explode.

Ben Brown, from Explorer Dome, said: "It was a really enjoyable session and quite different from being in schools. It was great to see how enthusiastic the children were."

Tracy Rogers, from the Sunshine Centre, said: "The feedback from families was excellent. So many people said they loved everything about the day, but in particular the bubbles."



• Natasha Grant, top, and Stephanie Sakyeioa

Bus strike union: Blame the bosses

By Eva Astreinidou

TWO additional dates have been set for bus strike action across Oxfordshire due to 'hard-line bosses' who want to 'salami slice the pay and conditions of workers'.

Crowds of people lined the streets on March 2 and 6 over a dispute regarding Christmas bank holiday pay.

Now two new dates have been set for March 17 and 24 by Unite for Oxford Bus Company bus routes.

The country's largest union, Unite, said it appreciated the disruption the strike will cause to the travelling public, but laid the blame at the door of the company's managing director Phil Southall who wanted 'to break the union'.

In a statement released on March 1, Unite said: "The dispute centres on the failure of the company to enter into any meaningful talks on the annual pay award and the failure to adequately compensate the whole workforce for Christmas/new year."

They said last Tuesday the management 'tore up' the trade union agreement it had with Unite, prompting the group to



• New misery for passengers

write to Oxford East MP Andrew Smith, as well as the city council Labour group asking for support.

According to Unite, the Oxford Bus Company bosses refused to pay drivers extra for working on two legally recognised bank holidays over the festive season which meant individual drivers lost £100 a day.

Unite regional officer Marie Hall said: "This dispute is entirely of the company's own making, as it has totally failed to engage in meaningful negotiations. Instead it has adopted an aggressive stance to the workforce in what is a legitimate industrial dispute."

"We appreciate the disruption that this strike will cause, but the blame lies with Phil Southall, who behind the warm words, has a plan to salami slice our members' pay and employment

conditions. We suspect the hidden agenda here is to break the union."

"As the Oxford public knows only too well, the city is one of the most expensive places in the UK to live and bring up families. Unite is not prepared to stand by and see our members' standard of living seriously eroded by this highly profitable company."

"Because of the hard line tactics of the bosses, our members are reluctantly taking strike action in defence of their incomes in these economically challenging times."

"However, Unite's door is always open for constructive talks."

On Monday, Len McCluskey, leader of the union, joined the picket line alongside bus workers on strike.

He warned that unless the issue of poor wages was addressed the dispute could spread across the country.

The bus company said that in line with industry standards, drivers were paid premium rates for three bank holidays over the Christmas and new year period.

It warned that demanding two additional days of bank holiday pay would mean an increase in fares for passengers.

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'Noisy opposition' sparks new plans for 'super council'



• From left, SODC leader John Cotton, OCC leader Ian Hudspeth and VOWH leader Matthew Barber are in favour of a unitary authority

By Eva Astreinidou

COUNCIL leaders have put forward revised proposals in their attempts to create an Oxfordshire 'super council' and quell the 'noisy opposition'.

The leaders of Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire district councils and Oxfordshire County Council announced their idea for a new joint proposal for a 'Better Oxfordshire'.

The proposals unveiled on Friday had a different stance to the 'One Oxfordshire' ideas that were mooted in January in efforts to better suit councils by allocating more powers to local communities and ensuring Oxford City Council will be a local council in its own right.

The proposals read: "The revised proposals recognise that the city of Oxford is central to Oxfordshire's economic and cultural success, and under the new council will become a local council in its own right."

Cherwell and West Oxfordshire district councils and Oxford City have been holding their ground against the unitary proposals, and have launched petitions since the announcement in January.

According to David Hill, chief executive of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils, opposing councils have two weeks to review the plans.

He said that ultimately the decision lies with Sajid Javid, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

He added that through implementation committees all leaders will have a chance to be involved in decision-making.

When asked about why the response to the petitions against

the unitary council has been so intense, he said: "What they are responding to is the initial ideas."

"We have however had a lengthy engagement process and having listened to people we have recognised the different local concerns and we are now giving stakeholders more influence."

He said that the initial five area executive boards, which would be designated as local decision-making boards, have now been altered to 15-20 boards.

Councillor Ian Hudspeth, leader of Oxfordshire County Council, maintained that there is 70 per cent public support for the new unitary council, as suggested in a survey by an independent body.

He said: "We have responded to issues raised during the nine month public engagement exercise in the new proposal, particularly in improving local involvement in Oxford."

"There is an opportunity to create a new local government for Oxford that reflects the city's economic and cultural importance to the whole county."

"The survey results show that despite the noisy opposition whipped up by opponents of change, there is a silent majority who support the idea of new council for a better Oxfordshire."

Cllr Matthew Barber, leader of Vale of White Horse District Council, said: "The Better Oxfordshire proposal will ensure Oxfordshire continues to be a great place to live, work and bring up a family."

"We are working jointly with South Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council to ensure local communities play a big role with the new council."

Cllr John Cotton, leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "A single council for Oxfordshire will be simpler, more local and will deliver better services at a lower cost."

"We have ensured that these revised proposals provide for more local area boards, so that communities across Oxfordshire can have their say on important local issues, from setting car parking charges and tackling anti-social behaviour."

On Thursday last week, West Oxfordshire District Council released a statement that said: "A survey asking for residents' views was completed by 4,364 people with 97 per cent agreeing they wanted to see more options to improve and safeguard local services than the single proposal put forward by Oxfordshire County Council."

"And a further 92 per cent said they wanted to see greater savings than the 2.4 per cent identified in the county proposal which could be secured through initiatives such as councils working together and more efficiently without cutting frontline services."

James Mills, leader of West Oxfordshire District Council, said: "It is crystal clear from this survey our residents do not want to see the creation of a unitary authority devised by Oxfordshire County Council. We all recognise there is far too much at risk in the district including free parking and low council tax, which are of huge benefit to everyone."

The county council is set to discuss the plans at a meeting on Tuesday.

To view the full proposal, visit better-oxfordshire.org/the-proposal



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Crash pictures to jog witness memory



By George Welch

POLICE have released shocking photographs of a seriously injured man as part of an appeal for witnesses to a 'fail to stop' collision.

Steven Wanna, 20, from Oxford, was in Nuneham Courtenay, when he was hit by a vehicle on Valentine's Day, police said.

Officers were called just after midnight on February 14 when Steven, pictured left, was found on the A4074, suffering from very serious injuries.

He is currently being treated in hospital and is in an "extremely serious condition".

He may never fully recover, according to officers.

The road was closed between the Goldenballs and Berinsfield roundabouts on that day and subsequently while officers investigated the scene.

Steven's uncle, Charlie Koko, speaking on behalf of the family, said: "We just want to find out

what happened to Steven that night and we want someone to come forward with any information which will help us."

Investigating officer PC Victoria Jones, based at the Serious Collision Investigation Unit in Reading, said: "As you see from the pictures, Steven is in an extremely serious condition and may never make a full recovery from his injuries."

"We are appealing for anyone who was in the area at the time and who may have noticed anything unusual in the road to contact us as a matter of urgency."

Contact police on 101 quoting URN 12 14/2.

Man is arrested after body of woman found

AN OXFORDSHIRE man has been arrested on suspicion of murder after a woman died from a severe brain bleed.

The body of 47-year-old Samantha Blake-Mizen was discovered at a property in Ludgershall, near Aylesbury, around 12.20pm on Sunday, Thames Valley Police said.

She was confirmed dead at the scene by the emergency services.

A post-mortem examination carried out on Monday revealed the cause of death to have been a subdural haematoma.

Her next of kin have been informed.

Police have confirmed that a 43-year-old man from Thame was arrested on suspicion of murder on Monday and has been released on bail until April 10.

A scenewatch has been put in place at the property while police carry out their investigations.

Senior investigating officer Det Ch Insp Ailsa Kent, of the Thames Valley Police Major Crime Unit, said: "I understand that there will naturally be some concerns in the community following this incident."

"But I would like to reassure people that a full investigation is taking place, and that an arrest has been made in connection with the incident."

"We continue to support the family of the victim, at this very difficult time."

"People living nearby may see an increased police presence in the area while enquiries are carried out."

Call 101 with information.



Rio fun for youngsters

STUDENTS with autism experienced their own version of the Rio Carnival through a drumming and Portuguese song workshop at Begbroke-based LVS Oxford.

Youngsters played traditional Brazilian-made samba drums and percussion instruments under the expert guidance of David Walter, founder of Ola Samba from Cheltenham.

They also learned carnival songs, which they sang in Portuguese.

The day culminated in the whole school coming together to perform in the hall.

Sixth former Caitlin said: "I'm now thinking I might take up drumming!"

David Walter from Ola Samba said: "It was wonderful to see the students' confidence grow as they warmed to the activities."



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Schools told 'lessons on sex are now mandatory'

By Eva Astrienidou

SEX and relationship education are now mandatory under age-appropriate lessons, as announced by the education secretary.

In a written statement on Wednesday last week, the education secretary, Justine Greening, said that sex and relationships education introduced in 2000 is 'becoming increasingly outdated'.

She said: "It fails to address risks to children that have grown in prevalence over the last 17 years, including cyberbullying, 'sexting' and staying safe online."

Oxfordshire County Council's cabinet member for education, Steve Harrod, said: "I very much share the Government's view that sex education is in need of modernisation in order to keep pace with some of the emerging challenges facing children and

young people as we move deeper into the 21st century.

"There are a number of issues linked to the way in which children – including younger children – increasingly access information and interact with others in online settings, which have not been addressed adequately by our recent approach to the subject.

"Problems like cyberbullying, sexting and online pornography pose considerable risks, and it is perhaps more important than ever for children to learn about the importance of healthy and loving relationships, so they can navigate their way through what must surely be, at times, a very confusing world."

He said that lessons need to be age-appropriate, but in the end giving sex education an 'overhaul' and making it a compulsory requirement for schools is a 'common sense initiative to keep children safe'.

Award for student mental health charity

A CHARITY empowering university students to look after their mental health and to support friends experiencing such difficulties has won a prestigious national award.

Students Minds, established in 2009 by a University of Oxford student who experienced mental health difficulties, has been named one of the 10 winners of the 2017 GSK IMPACT Awards, which recognises excellence in charities improving health and wellbeing in their communities.

The charity will receive £30,000 in funding, as well as expert support and development from The King's Fund, which runs the awards programme.

Statistics reveal an estimated three-quarters of lifetime mental illness begins by the time people are in their mid-20s, making it particularly important that young people receive the care and support they need.

Based in Oxford and with only 10 staff members, Student Minds worked with 97 universities last year across England, Scotland, and Wales.

The charity offers peer support programmes run by student volunteers, and also delivers training to university staff to increase their understanding of mental health issues.

Student Minds' other projects include the Looking After a Mate campaign, which gives guidance for students who



• Students Minds celebrate winning a 2017 GSK IMPACT Award

provide support to a friend experiencing mental health difficulties, and its #BestNightIn campaign, which challenges assumptions that students need to go out and drink excessive amounts of alcohol and instead celebrates the benefits of a quiet evening in.

Katie Pinnock, director of UK and Ireland Charitable Partnerships at GSK, said: "Student Minds is a small charity having a big impact on the promotion of good mental health in universities."

"Through its dynamic campaigns and support for volunteers, Student Minds has been really successful in raising awareness of mental health

issues and equipping students with the tools they need to look after their own mental health.

"Student Minds is an outstanding charity that's achieved a lot in a relatively short amount of time, making it a worthy winner of a GSK IMPACT Award."

Rosie Tressler, chief executive of Student Minds, said: "While around a third of students may experience mental health difficulties at university, all members of the university community can benefit from building health literacy and coping skills to manage the ups and downs of life."

"Student Minds was founded to encourage students to talk about mental health and pro-

mote the idea that recovery is possible.

"We're thrilled to receive this GSK IMPACT Award, which recognises the importance of our work and the fantastic contribution made by our volunteers. The award will help us develop as an organisation and continue delivering support for students."

Student Minds will receive the prize at a ceremony at the Science Museum in London on May 18.

Thursday last week marked the annual University Mental Health day, with more than 100 universities participating in events under the theme of 'active mental health'.

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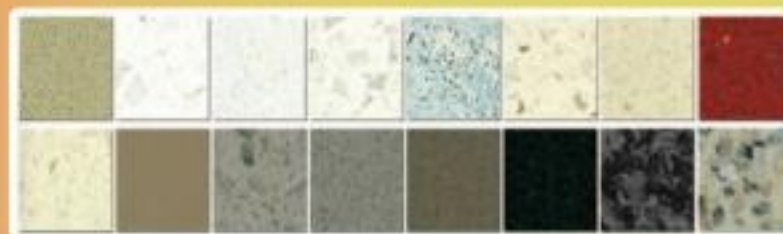
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Charity's delight as hospital room is named after it

By Eva Astrienidou

OXFORD Children's hospital has named one of its patient rooms in honour of Play2Give to mark their contribution.

The Play2Give room based at Melanie's ward, the teenage ward at Oxford Children's Hospital (CHOX), was officially unveiled on Wednesday last week.

The P2G team attended the small celebration, alongside supporters and sponsors, and some of the ward's nurses and hospital charity representatives.

As founder of P2G, Andy Baker had the honour of cutting the ribbon to the room.

A big cheque showcasing the charity's grand total raised for CHOX over the past decade, a whopping £40,165, was pre-

sented to Penny Hambridge, of the hospital charity, outside the hospital.

Andy said: "It was a really special moment to be able to see all of our hard work as a team's efforts rewarded with the unveiling of our room."

"We never imagined we would reach the £40,000 and see the day our room would become a reality, to benefit so many children for a lifetime to come."

"To achieve the room and in our 10th anniversary year is extra special and we are feeling very proud and over the moon."

"It was an overwhelming moment. Quite emotional too, to think we managed to raise all this money in a decade and to have a tribute given like this by the hospital to last a lifetime."

"To know we have contributed in such a special way that will go on to leave a lasting legacy is for us a truly magical, special and humbling feeling."

"It is certainly the proudest and most special achievement in P2G's history."

"It has been an incredible



amount of hard and tireless work to achieve this and very often in difficult times and against the odds, but we couldn't be prouder.

"We hope it goes on to benefit so many teens and their families for generations to come."

"This honour in this way isn't just given to anyone so for a small group like us to be given a tribute in having a room named after P2G is something really special."

He added: "We hope that people will continue to support us so that we can continue to raise funds for the children's hospital and help even more young patients get the very best medical care and medical facilities and equipment that really does transform and save young lives."

P2G will celebrate its decade-long success of fundraising for

local charities with a special 10th anniversary black tie ball in September, with proceeds going to CHOX and Headway Oxfordshire.

P2G has also been recognised at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust's Staff Recognition Awards, as the charity made the top three for the 'Supporter of the Year' gong last year.

Andy was a former patient at the hospital after suffering a brain injury at birth and undergoing brain surgery aged 12.

He was inspired by the treatment he received and has since dedicated himself to raise money for local charities including the hospital.

Since then, he has also earned the title of Oxfordshire Youth Award in 2013.

To donate to the charity's 10-year appeal, visit tinyurl.com/zksd8xx.



• Andrew Baker, Dale Harris, Teresa Strike and Elaine Childs – together with supporters and sponsors. Above right, some of the Mel's Ward nurses and hospital charity reps



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Young gymnasts in a twirl after sailing into UK finals

YOUNG gymnasts from Banbury are heading for their national championships after top class performances in a qualifying competition in Leicestershire.

Members of the Banbury Cross Twirling Club – aged four to 19 – took part in a range of disciplines including solo twirl, fancy strut, dance twirl, duos, two-baton and poise/personality.

Many of the girls competed and qualified in all six routines.

Rita Duarte, five, and six-year-old Billi McFadden celebrated their first ever wins, with gold in the tiny tots solo

category, and the juvenile solo class respectively.

Baton twirling is a unique sport that incorporates gymnastics, acrobatics and dancing. The British championships will be held over the Easter weekend at the K2 Arena in Crawley.

Banbury coach Nichola Halford said: "Some of our girls were taking part in their first competitions and they came through with flying colours."

"I am really proud of what the club has achieved in what is a very competitive sport – and we will continue to work hard for the nationals."



• Banbury Cross Twirlers after competing in the national championships qualifiers. Inset (centre) is Rita Duarte and (right) Billi McFadden after their first-ever victories.

News Bites

Pensioner duped

BANBURY: An elderly man was duped out of £600 then had a further £300 stolen in a distraction burglary.

A tradesman knocked on the victim's door in Springfield Avenue on February 28 and told him his roof cap stones were damaged, causing damp in the loft space.

The victim paid £600 cash for repairs and was told to go and open the loft hatch so it could dry out before work began. The man then stole a further £300 cash from the dining room.

The conman was driving a white van. He was described as white, in his thirties and 6ft tall with an English accent.

He was clean-shaven with a round face and was wearing a light green beanie hat, a navy blue anorak and was carrying a bound book containing roofing information.

Artists get ready

CHIPPING NORTON: Artists in West Oxfordshire are gearing up for this year's Art Weeks in May.

Artist and debut novelist Jan Harvey is dedicating her exhibition at Jan's Garden Gallery in Shipton-under-Wychwood to all things literary.

Works include paintings, glass, drawings and cards created around the theme of her book *The Seven Letters*.

Animal carcasses dumped in bin bags at car park 15 times

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after animal remains were repeatedly left in bin bags at a Banbury car park.

Officers say there have been 15 separate incidents in February – on one date animals were dumped seven separate times.

Black plastic bin liners containing animal carcasses or

bones were understood to have been found in the parking area behind shops at Ironstones.

Ironstones is green space park land in the Hardwick area Banbury and has open space for ball games and picnics and a children's play park.

Police are working with officers at Environmental Health and

Trading Standards to ensure there is no risk to the public and to determine the source of the animals.

It is believed the remains are livestock or farm animals.

Sgt Paul Smith, of Banbury police station, said: "We would like to hear from anyone who may have seen anyone at Iron-

stones with black, plastic bags. It may be you saw individuals or vehicles acting suspiciously in the area. We would ask you to get in touch with the details."

"Aside from the distress caused to the public on finding these, there is clearly a health hazard if animal remains are not disposed of correctly."

"We believe the remains are of livestock or farm animals, so if you keep livestock and any of your animals have gone missing, ensure a report is made."

Anyone with information should call the 24hour non-emergency 101 number or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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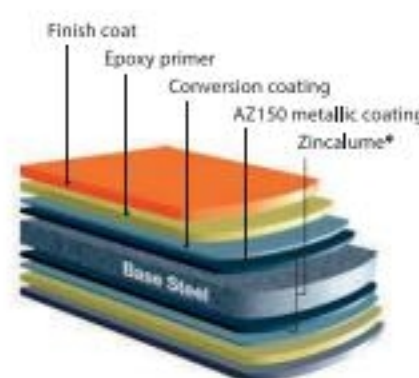
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£1.4m will help city's 'deprived'

OXFORD'S most disadvantaged communities will receive £1.4m of funding to help the voluntary sector.

On Monday, Oxford City Council announced plans to help organisations that support some of the city's most disadvantaged communities.

The council runs a community grants scheme every year and the 2017/18 funding, which totals £1,430,970, was agreed at a meeting in February.

The funding includes £518,379 to organisations providing advice and money management, as well as £442,279 to groups providing services to Oxford's homeless population.

Community safety projects will receive £61,082 and £15,000 will go to Oxford Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre to provide a telephone helpline service.

More than £230,000 will also be set aside to encourage inclusion in arts and culture.

Councillor Christine Simm, executive board member for culture and communities, said: "Oxford's community and voluntary sector is a lifeline for families all across the city. I am delighted that Oxford City Council has agreed another £1.4m to help their crucial work."

Eighteen of Oxford's 83 small areas are defined as deprived.

Young farmers moo-ved to tackle bike ride for charity

By George Welch

MEMBERS of the Abingdon Young Farmers Club are to bike nearly 200 miles to raise money for Oxford-based charity Blue Sky Thinking.

Keen cyclists Rebecca Hollands, Christina O'Hare, Isobel Mogford, David Hunt, Danny Humphrey, Veronique Beviere, Darren James and Lauren Moris will be cycling in tandem from Abingdon to their annual convention in Torquay - more than 190 miles.

The eight cyclists will leave Abingdon on April 18 and hope to arrive in the Devon town three days later.

Blue Sky Thinking was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall in memory of their son, Skye, from Abingdon, who died in 2014 from side effects of his treatment for medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumour.

The team is hoping to raise £1,000 towards the charity's Aim Skye High Appeal.

The appeal aims to raise £50,000 towards a three year post doctoral research position at the renowned Northern Institute for Cancer Research.

Rebecca said: "Every year, all



• Young farmers from the Abingdon club will be riding 200 miles for the charity Blue Sky Thinking

Young Farmer Clubs nationwide choose a charity to fundraise for.

"We first met Blue Sky Thinking at a local event in the summer of 2016. It was here that we first heard the truly inspirational, yet

sad, story of Skye and his brave battle with cancer.

"After also discovering that one of Oxfordshire Young Farmer Clubs' county leaders was friends with Skye's mum,

we knew that this was our chosen charity for the year. It was a unanimous decision.

"We will be aiming sky high to raise money, but will also try to raise awareness of the charity

Blue Sky Thinking and all the work they do in order to raise money for research into new treatments of childhood brain tumours."

More than 350 children a year in the UK face the devastating news they have a brain tumour, yet only just over one per cent of cancer funding goes towards research into them - the number one cancer killer in children and teenagers.

Mrs Hall said: "We have such a generous community in Oxford and once again they have delivered. Without local organisations getting involved and spreading the message we would not be where we are today, so thank you to the Young Farmer Club for choosing Blue Sky Thinking to support."

"Together we will continue to raise money for research to find better treatments."

To support the Young Farmer Club challenge, visit tinyurl.com/znrghz

To support the appeal, visit tinyurl.com/je2377r or text UPUP52 £3 to 70070.

To plan a 'Skye High' event, email contact@blueskyethinking.org to receive a handy fundraising pack.

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Most pupils go to school they picked

By Eva Astrienidou

ALMOST nine out of 10 Oxfordshire children have been offered a place at their first-choice school for September.

A total of 88.64 per cent of pupils have received a first-preference offer for secondary school places they applied for.

A further 6.66 per cent have been offered their second choice and 1.53 per cent offered their third preference, leaving just 3.17 per cent of applicants being offered a place at a school not among their stated preferences.

More than 6,600 children were offered secondary school places this year, amounting to 85 more than in 2016, and 268 more than in 2015.

Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Education Steve Harrod said: "Once again we have been able to give the vast majority of families the news they were hoping to receive. Oxfordshire has a strong record on school place-planning and compares very favourably

with other parts of the country when it comes to making first-choice offers.

"We are expecting to see our secondary school-age population continue to increase over the next few years, as the growth we saw at our primary schools over the last decade translates into greater demand for secondary school places.

"We are well placed to meet this challenge, both through our ongoing work with existing schools to identify expansion opportunities where they are needed, and our role in delivering entirely new schools where local housing growth demands their provision."

Cllr Harrod added: "Unfortunately, there are always circumstances where we can't offer everyone a place. An appeal process is available to families wishing to challenge the outcome of their application. Children's names can also be placed on 'continued interest' lists in case places become available at schools between now and September."



Diabetes nurses, from left, Perdy van den Berg, Penny Latimer and Jane Maskell in training

Nurses training hard for charity ride

THREE diabetes nurses from Oxfordshire will be cycling the Prudential Ride46 London bike ride to raise money for a charity close to their hearts.

Penny Latimer, Jane Maskell and Perdy van den Berg are training intensively for the 46-mile ride on July 30 to raise money for Diabetes UK.

Penny Latimer, community diabetes specialist nurse, said: "We're all passionate about diabetes. Between the three of us we have built up over 40 years' experience of helping people with the condition and

we wanted to raise money for a cause very close to our hearts."

Jane Maskell, community diabetes specialist nurse, said: "Doing Ride46 London will be a great personal challenge for me as a non-cyclist, but I'm getting into training at my local gym. Knowing that I'm raising money to support the great work of Diabetes UK is an excellent incentive."

Perdy van den Berg, the clinical lead for the Oxfordshire Community Diabetes Service, said: "I am a keen cyclist and encouraged Jane and Penny

to join me in a team challenge. Who knows where it may lead us, it could become an annual challenge?"

"Cycling is a great, fun way to get active and we really hope others will be inspired to join us on the ride and raise money for Diabetes UK."

Jill Steaton, regional head for Diabetes UK in the south east, said: "Cycling has so many health benefits. I try to cycle whenever I can but 46 miles is quite a feat - I wish the ladies the very best of luck. They're an inspiration to us all."

Diabetes is a huge and growing problem, with more than 4.5 million people affected in the UK.

The charity supports people by offering information about managing the condition and funding the highest quality research into potential new treatments.

Donations can be made via: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Penny-Latimer> <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/perdyvandenber> <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jane-Maskell1>

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• Pictured from left: Mohammed Ali, Ormani Bernard-Sewell, Naasir Francis, Dior Jackson and Lawrence Morgan

Third man locked up over drugs in clothes

By Samantha McGregor

THREE men from Birmingham have been jailed for supplying heroin and crack cocaine in Oxfordshire.

The latest, Dior Jackson, 18, of Bond Way, Cannock, had earlier admitted supplying class A drugs.

He was sentenced at Oxford Crown Court last Friday to four years in a young offenders institution because he was 17 at the time.

Two other men, Lawrence Morgan, 20, and Ormani Bernard-Sewell, 21, were sentenced at the same court last month after both admitted the same offences.

Two other men who have also been charged with supplying Class A drugs are on the run.

In October 2015 police raided a property in West Street, Banbury, during which clothes were thrown outside from a window on the top floor.

Five men were arrested and after the clothing was gathered up officers found more than "100 individual wraps of both crack cocaine and heroin" inside the clothes.

Det Con Leanne Narbett, of Banbury Police station, said: "The Judge at Oxford Crown, His Honour Ross, said Morgan and Bernard-Sewell 'both played significant roles motivated by financial advantage'.

"He recognised that so-called county lines of drugs supply are 'real and prevalent' in Oxfordshire and said that 'they were part of such a gang and the purpose was undoubtedly to deal drugs in a commercial drug dealing operation'.

"We want to emphasise that anyone who gets involved in drug supply at whatever level in the chain runs the risk of being convicted and, as Judge Ross said, cannot expect sentences other than those imposed in this case.

"We will continue to work tire-

lessly to stop those people coming to Oxfordshire purely for the purpose of targeting the vulnerable within the community and bringing misery to the area with the supply of drugs."

Morgan, of Crompton Close, Birmingham, was sentenced to two years - to run consecutively to a sentence currently being served of five years and eight months for possession of a firearm, ammunition and drugs.

Ormani Bernard-Sewell, of Sturge Close, Birmingham, was given four years plus a further three months for a bladed article offence in Birmingham.

Mohammed Ali, 20, of Ventnor Avenue, Birmingham, is wanted after failing to appear at Oxford Crown Court for sentencing last Friday. Naasir Francis, aged 18, of Denby Close, Birmingham, failed to appear at court. He was charged with the offences last July.

Cheers! Pubs voted great to work at

AN Oxfordshire pub company has been named one of the best places in the country to work according to a national newspaper survey.

The Peach Pub Company was rated number 45 by The Sunday Times.

Now in its 17th year, the paper's Top 100 is an annual ranking and survey of the best of Britain's employers.

Hamish Stoddart, co-founder of Peach, which looks after 18 pubs and employs about 450 people, said "When my business partners Lee Cash and Jo Eames and I got together 15 years ago we set out to open one, really great pub.

"Now, to be recognised as one of the best companies to work for in the whole of the UK is a dream come true.

"Although we've won many awards from within the hospitality world for looking after our people and giving them inspirational train-



• Pub owners Hamish Stoddart, Lee Cash and Jo Eames

ing and development opportunities, getting recognition this time from outside our industry is even more meaningful.

"It's tough for a hospitality company - where the hours are long and the work is hard - to be recognised as a great employer.

"It's a challenge for pubs, too. The great British pub industry will

only be saved if we carry on making our pubs fun, exciting places to come to and for our people to work in."

Peach has four pubs across Oxfordshire - The Fishes in North Hensley, The Fleece in Witney, The Thatch and The James Figg both in Thame, and a training and support centre in North Aston.

News Bites

Splash the cash

THAME: Swimmers raised more than £4,000 after covering 2,899 lengths of the pool - the equivalent of 45 miles.

Twenty teams took part in the fifth annual Thame Swimathon at Thame Leisure Centre on Sunday, February 26.

The event was organised by the Rotary Club of Thame.

Thame mayor Linda Emery, a former Rotary Club president, handed out medals to all participants.



• Missing man Keith Jervis

Concern for Keith

BANBURY: Police are "concerned" for a 53-year-old man who has gone missing.

Keith Jervis was last seen on February 16 when he left the caravan park at Corner Meadow, Farnborough Road, Mollington, near Banbury, in a Silver Toyota Hilux with the registration BJ65EFT.

The car has since been found at a local retail park locked and secure. Both his mobile phones were in the vehicle.

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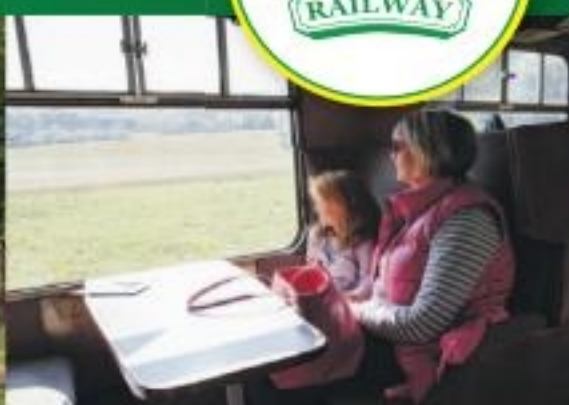
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Everyone, keep Sunday, March 26th free as it is a very important day.

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spoiled this year within a reasonable and sensible budget? **Think outside the box.**

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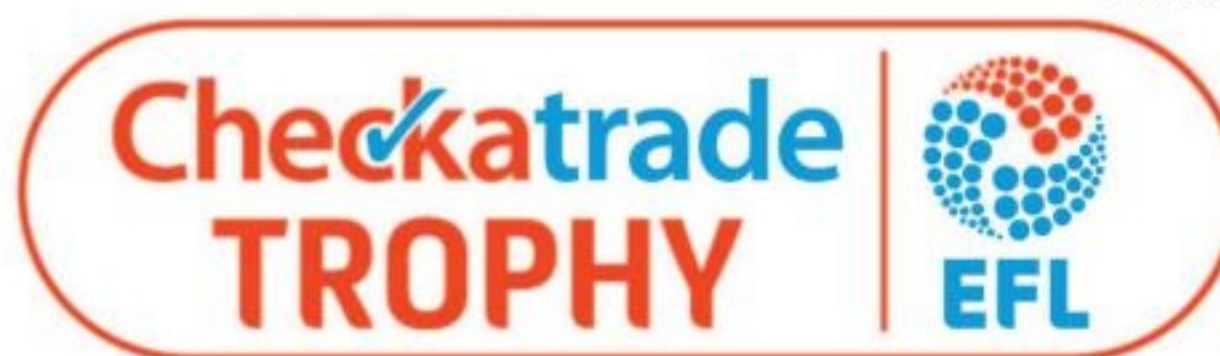


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Oxford United are on their way to the Checkatrade Trophy Final for a second year in a row and are unbeaten in the competition since last year's final. Michael Appleton's men struck late to beat Luton 3-2 away from home in the semi-final, setting up a grandstand cup final against a Coventry side who are visiting Wembley for the first time in 30 years.

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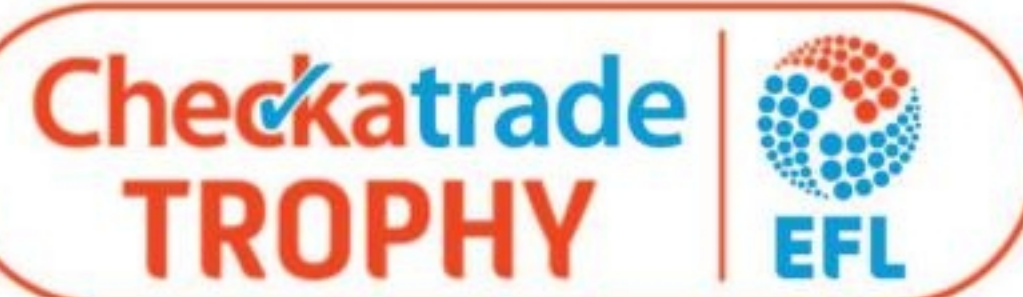
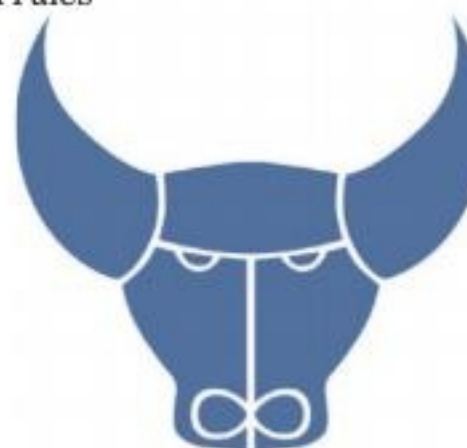
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Terms & Conditions

1. The prize consists of four tickets for ten winners to the game against Coventry City at Wembley on April 2nd 2017.
2. The package does not include travel to or from the ground or any hospitality at the ground
3. Entrants are reminded that tickets are issued subject to Wembley and EFL regulations and the Conditions of Entry relevant to those tickets
4. Fans are reminded that these tickets are in the Oxford United end and seats are amongst their supporters. Any away supporters found in home areas may be ejected from the ground either for the purposes of their own safety or for any other reason.
5. The competition is open to all UK residents with the exception of

employees of Coventry City, Oxford United or Hatch Communications, their immediate families, agents or anyone else associated with the administration

6. No cash alternative will be offered
7. The competition closes at midnight Thursday, March 16.
8. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the promoter reserves the right to offer an alternative prize of equal or greater value
9. The promoter's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into
10. All entrants must be willing to participate in publicity should they be a winner
11. We reserve the right at any time to cancel, modify or supersede the competition if, in our sole discretion, the competition is not capable of being conducted as specified in the competition rules



To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
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Competition

WIN family tickets to Gulliver's

Eggs-travagant Easter fun for everyone at Gulliver's this spring!

WE'VE teamed up with Gulliver's family theme parks to give away 3 family tickets to unforgettable days out this Easter.

Throughout Gulliver's Easter Extravaganza, there are lots of 'eggstra' special activities planned at Gulliver's World in Warrington, Gulliver's Kingdom in Matlock Bath and Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes.

Over the four day Easter bank holiday weekend there will be some very special appearances from the Easter Bunny plus amazing entertainment for you and your little chicks. Join the Gully Gang and enjoy Easter themed competitions and entertainment on the main stage, including the Easter Bunny Parade and the ultimate in springtime fun - the Big Bunny Bounce!

Gulliver's theme parks are open daily throughout their Easter Extravaganza which runs from 1st to 23rd April*, with a super selection of rides,

Closing date: Friday, March 24.

shows and attractions to discover, all devised for children aged two to 13.

Car parking is always free at Gulliver's and there is a great selection of food on offer.



For full details of opening times and to book, visit www.gulliversfun.co.uk.

Win tickets

To be in with a chance of winning a family ticket for four people to visit Gulliver's this Easter, answer this simple question.

Q: Which of these young animals isn't associated with Easter?

Bunny, Chick or Kitten?

T&Cs apply. See online entry form for details.

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Not all Hearing Centres are the same



Sarah-Jane Hole, Audiologist at the Banbury Hearing Centre

We communicate by talking, but if we cannot hear what people are saying, it can give rise to reduced social activity leading in turn to isolation and poorer quality of life. But as soon as someone makes the decision to improve their hearing, by wearing hearing aids, they begin a journey that starts with auditory wellness and ends with a richer more complete life. We know at the

At the Banbury Hearing Centre, we take a holistic approach to hearing care, meaning we treat you as an individual. The most important thing people need is time; someone to listen to their concerns and advise them of the best course of action. When someone walks out of our door we like to feel we have done all we can to help improve their quality of life. Our business has grown organically; people we've helped often recommend us to their friends and family. That is the biggest compliment to us, knowing we are doing our job properly.

Banbury Hearing Centre how difficult it is to take this first step, two of our patients talk about their personal experience:

"Last November, I finally took my hearing problem seriously - at 69. I had been in denial for years, struggling with my work and with friends and family. Then on a friend's recommendation, I tried one last throw of the dice and contacted the Banbury Hearing Centre. I was given confidence that things could change. They went to great

lengths to understand my hearing problems and explained how I would be fully supported as I acclimatised to my new aids. I felt in control of my situation throughout. Most importantly they were careful to manage my expectations - it felt like a collaborative process."

"At 35 I felt too young to have a hearing loss, but knew I was struggling desperately. I walked into the Banbury Hearing Centre, I was extremely nervous, but immediately

June put me at my ease and made me feel at home. Sarah-Jane the Audiologist really listened to all of my queries and concerns about having a hearing loss and needing hearing aids. I have now had my new hearing aids for four months and I have been supported implicitly. Nothing is ever too much trouble. My hearing aids have truly changed my life, I can now enjoy social events and I can hear much better in every aspect of my life!



Let us help you take the first step to better hearing and call 01295 268333 for your complimentary, no obligation consultation at our centre in Banbury.



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Puzzles



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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

- 4 Speaker (6)
- 8 Lay bare (7)
- 10 Exotic flowers (7)
- 11 Command (5)
- 12 Aristocratic (5)
- 13 Small parts (9)
- 16 Experts in abstract principles (9)
- 19 Egg-shaped (5)
- 20 Lid (5)
- 22 Likes better (7)
- 23 Relating to heat (7)
- 24 Turn around (6)

Quick Clues Down

- 1 Delayed (3,3)
- 2 Sour (4)
- 3 Exaggeration (13)
- 5 Rebuilt (13)
- 6 Finger protectors (8)
- 7 Refreshed (6)
- 9 Musical composition (5)
- 14 Adjoining (8)
- 15 Conductive metal (6)
- 17 Have reality (5)
- 18 Parchment (4)
- 21 Improvise in music (4)

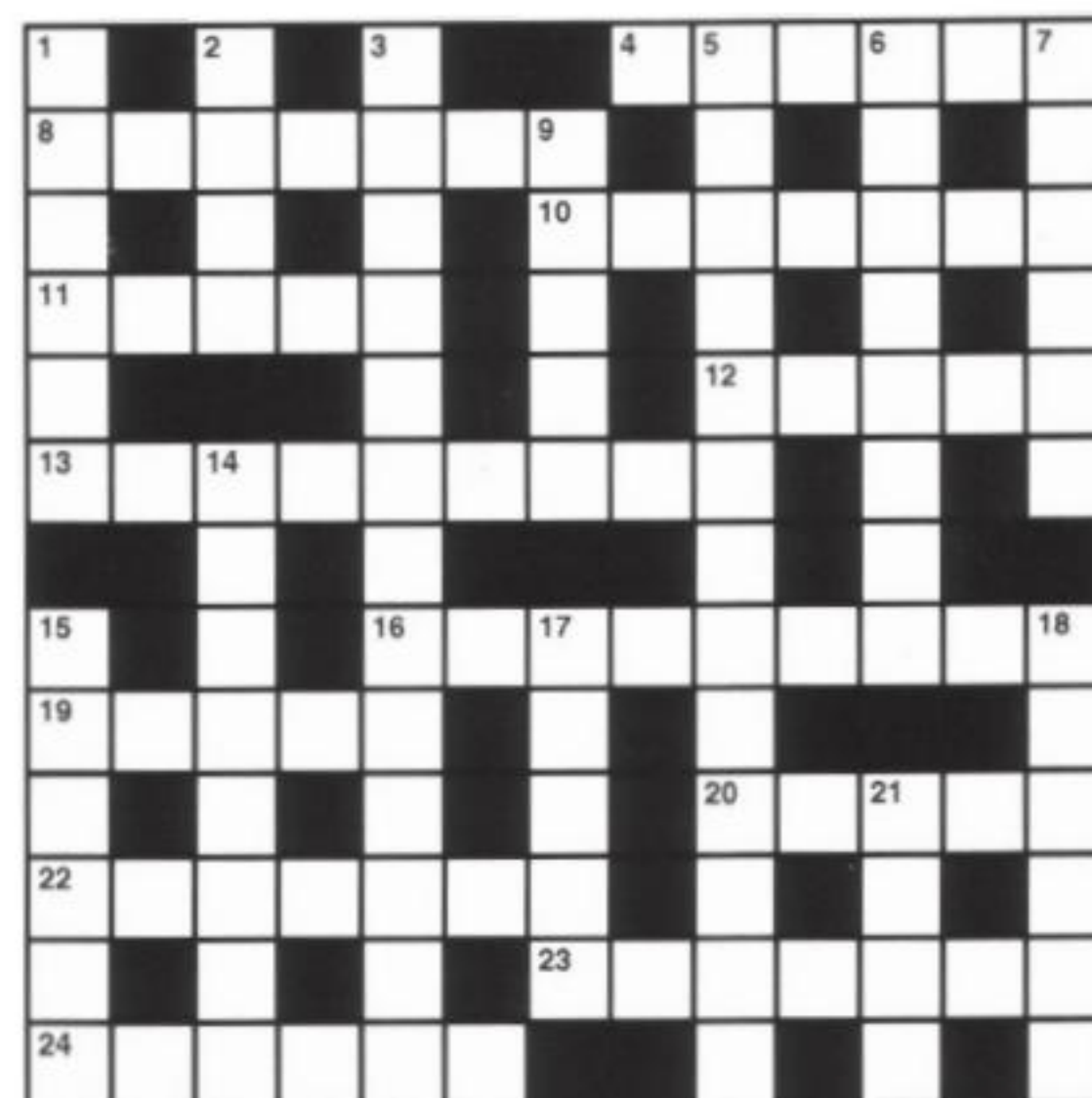
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

- 4 Or cast out the players (6)
- 8 Talk to a golf ball? (7)
- 10 Agony of men engaged in a wrongful act (7)
- 11 The rest of the mind and body (5)
- 12 Part of this is always used for making rope (5)
- 13 It's very discouraging (9)
- 16 Will thank men in trial (9)
- 19 Behold anger of river (5)
- 20 The company is back in poor trim (5)
- 22 Send round a tip as wages (7)
- 23 Forever without a goal (7)
- 24 Majestic month (6)

Cryptic Clues Down

- 1 Assembled a crowd to edit without it (6)
- 2 Sounds as if the image isn't working (4)
- 3 Lack of hope of those who otherwise need spare sets (13)
- 5 Special Yule current? (13)
- 6 Change over so he can protect one extremity (8)
- 7 Come to rest on the bench? (6)
- 9 The street has one piece of rock (5)
- 14 Aiming a gun under instruction (8)
- 15 Up the mountain mother's out giving blood (6)
- 17 Be frank. Call it by its name (5)
- 18 She impresses many characters (6)
- 21 No writer is unrestricted (4)



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Puzzles



Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called “boxes”, “blocks”, “regions”, or “sub-squares”) contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	1		5					8
5		8	4			6		2
		6	1	3	8	7		
8					5		3	
7		3				9		4
	2		7					1
		5	8	9	7	4		
9		4			2	1		6
3					4		7	

	1	9		2		3	4	
6		3				8		7
9			6		3			4
		5				6		
3			1		5			2
7		4				1		5
	9	6		3		7	2	

5					9	1	7	
					5			4
	9			2			5	
					4	7	8	
2								9
	8	3	1					
	2			5			1	
1				6				
	4	6	7					3

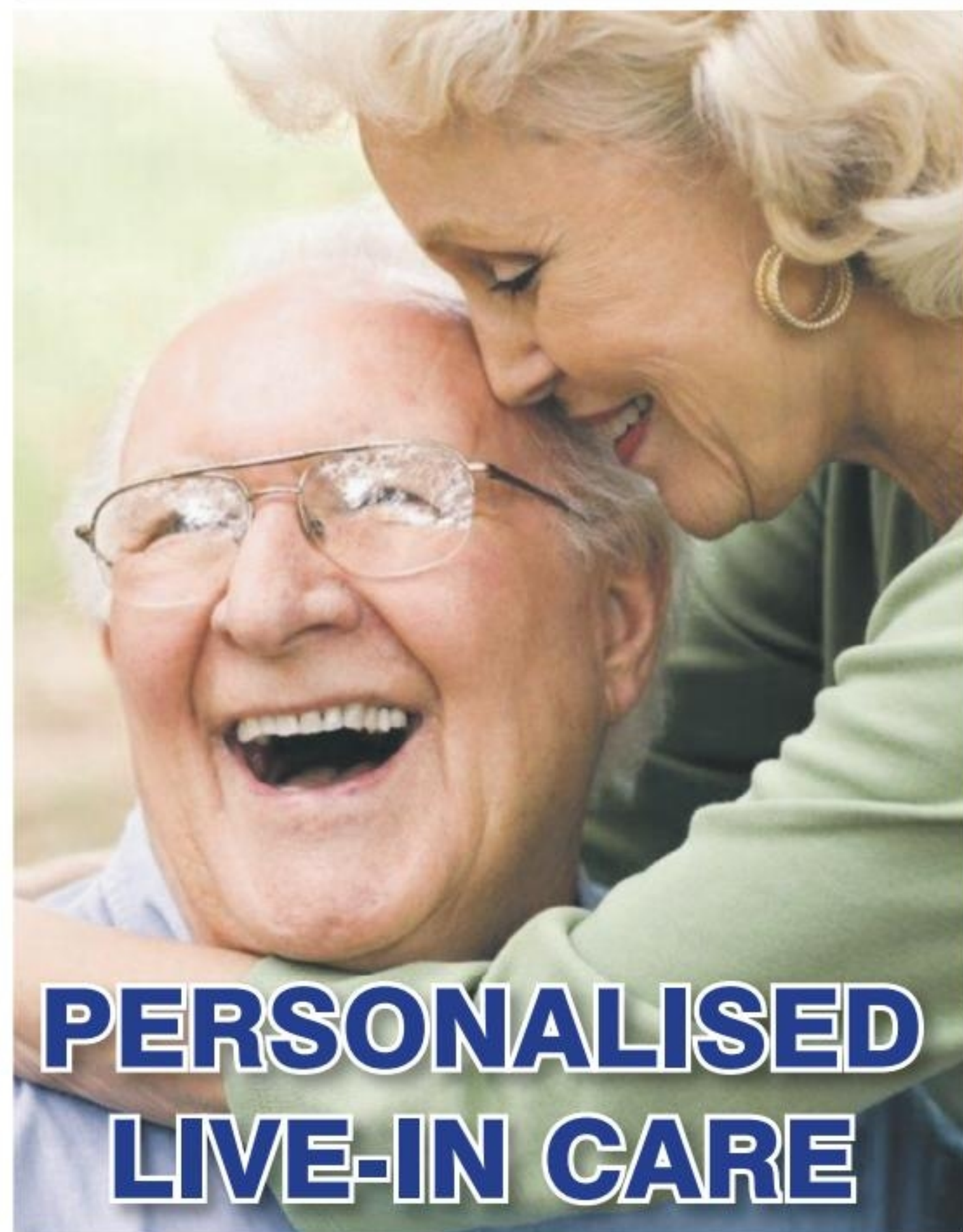
This week's solutions

8	4	6	7	1	2	5	9	3
1	5	9	6	4	3	8	2	7
3	2	7	9	5	8	4	1	6
4	8	3	1	9	7	2	6	5
2	7	1	5	8	6	3	4	9
9	6	5	2	3	4	7	8	1
7	9	4	3	2	1	6	5	8
6	1	2	8	7	5	9	3	4
5	3	8	4	6	9	1	7	2

2	8	1	7	5	6	4	3	9
5	9	6	4	3	1	7	2	8
7	3	4	8	9	2	1	6	5
3	6	8	1	4	5	9	7	2
1	4	5	2	7	9	6	8	3
9	7	2	6	8	3	5	1	4
6	2	3	9	1	4	8	5	7
8	1	9	5	2	7	3	4	6
4	5	7	3	6	8	2	9	1

3	8	2	6	1	4	5	7	9
9	7	4	3	5	2	1	8	6
1	6	5	8	9	7	4	2	3
6	2	9	7	4	3	8	5	1
7	5	3	2	8	1	9	6	4
8	4	1	9	6	5	2	3	7
2	9	6	1	3	8	7	4	5
5	3	8	4	7	9	6	1	2
4	1	7	5	2	6	3	9	8

Quick Crossword
 Across: 4 Orator 8 Uncover 10 Orchids 11 Order
 12 Noble 13 Fractions 17 Theorists 19 Oval 20 Cover
 22 Prefers 23 Thermal 24 Rotate
 Down: 1 Put off 2 Acid 3 Overstatement 5 Reconstructed
 6 Thimbles 7 Rested 9 Rondo 14 Adjacent 15 Copper
 17 Exist 18 Scroll 21 Vamp
Cryptic Crossword
 Across: 4 Actors 8 Address 10 Torment 11 Sleep 12 Stal
 13 Deterrent 16 Testament 19 Loire 20 Troop 22 Suspend
 23 Endless 24 August
 Down: 1 Massed 2 Idle 3 Desperateness 5 Christmaside
 6 Overshoe 7 Settle 9 Stone 14 Training 15 Plasma 17 Spade
 18 Typist 21 Open



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Saturday March 11th

	BBC1	BBC2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
	Casualty, 8.40pm	Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands, 8pm	Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, 7pm	Crafts 2017, 7pm	Live Boxing on 5, 10.20pm
DAYTIME	11.30 Mary Berry Everyday (S)(R) 12.00 Football Focus – FA Cup on the Road (S) 1.00 BBC News (S) 1.15 Bargain Hunt (S) 2.15 Escape to the Country (S) 2.45 FILM Kung Fu Panda (2008) (PG) (S) 4.10 Final Score (S) 5.10 Celebrity Mastermind (S)(R) 5.40 BBC News (S) 5.50 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 6.00 Pointless Celebrities (S)(R) 6.45 Let's Sing and Dance for Comic Relief (S)	9.30 Coast (S) 10.00 Natural World (S)(R) 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer (S)(R) 12.00 Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry (S)(R) 1.00 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo (S)(R) 1.30 FILM The Red Shoes (1948) (U) (S) 3.40 Gardeners' World (S)(R) 4.10 University Challenge (S)(R) 4.40 Only Connect (S)(R) 5.10 Flog It! (S)(R) 6.00 Natural World (S)(R)	8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School (S) 9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S)(R) 9.25 Alphabetical (S)(R) 10.20 All Star Family Fortunes (S)(R) 11.05 The Voice UK (S)(R) 12.25 ITV News; Weather (S) 12.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S) 3.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union (S) 6.30 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.45 ITV News (S)	6.15 Mobil 1 The Grid (S) 6.45 The King of Queens (S)(R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 8.30 Frasier (S)(R) 9.30 The Big Bang Theory (S)(R) 10.55 The Simpsons (S)(R) 12.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast (S)(R) 1.00 Come Dine with Me (S)(R) 3.35 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun (S)(R) 4.35 Location, Location, Location (S)(R) 5.35 Channel 4 News (S) 6.05 Dogs Behaving Badly (S)	6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S) 10.30 Access 10.35 Benefits Britain: Me & My 14 Kids (S)(R) 11.30 Benefits: On the Yorkshire Dole (S)(R) 12.25 Benefit Beauty Queens (S)(R) 1.25 Dance Moms (S) 4.10 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door Two neighbour in Snowdonia National Park who end up at loggerheads. (S)(R) 5.05 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away (S)(R)
7		7.00 Natural World Part two of two. The new animals are proving quite a handful. (S)(R)	7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway The evening variety show continues. (S)	7.00 Crafts 2017 Clare Balding presents live coverage from the NEC in Birmingham. (S)	7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles A vehicle transporting Jada Khaled is ambushed. (S)
8	8.00 Who Dares Wins (S) 8.40 Casualty Robyn takes matters into her own hands as David's behaviour becomes increasingly manic. (S)	8.00 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands Paul Murton heads to the northernmost spur of Skye. (S) 8.30 Dad's Army (S)(R)	8.30 The Voice UK The remaining contestants face the third of four live knock-out rounds. Presented by Emma Willis. (S)		8.00 NCIS The secretary of the US Navy seeks to save the life of a sailor with leukaemia. (S) 8.55 5 News Weekend (S)
9	9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys Agnes is excited about Rory's big day – until she meets the wedding planner. (S)(R)	9.00 Geri's 1990s: My Drive to Freedom Geri Horner shares her memories of the 1990s. (S)	9.45 ITV News; Weather (S)	9.00 FILM Room (2015) (15) Premiere. Drama, starring Brie Larson and Jacob Tremblay. (S)	9.00 Football on 5: The Championship Highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship. (S) 9.50 Football on 5: Goal Rush (S)
10	10.00 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S) 10.20 Match of the Day Highlights of Bournemouth v West Ham United. (S)	10.00 Live at the Apollo With Frankie Boyle, Jack Carroll and Holly Walsh. (S)(R) 10.45 FILM LA Confidential (1997) (18) (S)	10.05 Lethal Weapon A case involving gun-runners and military technology involves Riggs personally. (S)(R)		10.20 Live Boxing on 5 Craig Kenned v Stephen Simmons. Coverage of the bout for the vacant British Cruiserweight title, which takes place at Motorpoint Arena in Cardiff, Wales. (S)
11	11.05 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights Action from the sixth round. (S) 11.35 This Country (S)		11.00 FILM Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) (15) Action adventure sequel, with Sylvester Stallone and Richard Crenna. (S)	11.20 FILM The Adjustment Bureau (2011) (12) Sci-fi thriller, starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt. (S)	
AFTER 12	12.00 Line of Duty (S)(R) 1.00 Line of Duty (S)(R) 2.00 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 2.05 BBC News (S)	12.55 Taboo (S)(R) 1.55 Taboo (S)(R) 2.55 FILM Rabbit Hole (2010) (12) Drama, with Nicole Kidman and Aaron Eckhart. (S) 4.20 This Is BBC Two (S)	12.50 Schofield's South African Adventure (S)(R) 1.25 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen	1.15 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) 2.05 Hollyoaks (S) 4.10 Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 4.55 Four in a Bed (S)(R) 5.20 Building the Dream (S)	12.10 SuperCasino 3.10 FILM London Boulevard (2010) (18) Crime drama, with Colin Farrell and Keira Knightley. (S) 4.50 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S)(R) 5.40 Angels o Jarm (S)(R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 6.10 Emmerdale 8.40 Coronation Street 11.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway 12.40 The Voice UK 2.00 You've Been Framed! Gold 2.30 **FILM**: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Comedy, starring Kevin James. 3.30 FYI Daily 3.35 **FILM**: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Concluded, 4.25 **FILM**: King Kong (2005) (12) Fantasy adventure remake, starring Naomi Watts. 5.25 FYI Daily 5.30 **FILM**: King Kong (2005) (12) Concluded, 8.00 Scorpion 9.00 **FILM**: American Pie: The Wedding (2003) (15) Comedy sequel, starring Jason Biggs. 10.00 FYI Daily 10.05 **FILM**: American Pie: The Wedding (2003) (15) Concluded, 10.55 Family Guy 12.25 American Dad! 1.20 Release the Hounds: Famous & Freaked 2.20 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.45 Teleshopping 5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 On the Buses 6.55 Murder, She Wrote 7.55 **FILM**: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) 8.55 FYI Daily 9.00 **FILM**: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) 9.45 **FILM**: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) 10.45 FYI Daily 10.50 **FILM**: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) 11.35 Inspector Morse 1.50 Rosemary & Thyme 2.55 Agatha Christie's Marple 5.00 Lewis 7.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Carry On Forever 12.00 Wycliffe 1.05 Marchlands 2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Britain's Outlaws: Highwaymen, Pirates and Rogues 8.00 She-Wolves: England's Early Queens 9.00 Follow the Money 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1983 12.15 People's History of Pop 1.15 Blues America 3.15 Sounds of the Eighties 3.45 Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Made in Chelsea 6.45 Melissa & Joey 7.40 Young & Hungry 8.35 Baby Daddy 9.35 How I Met Your Mother 10.30 Young & Hungry 11.30 **FILM**: Step Up (2006) (PG) Romantic dance drama, with Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan. 1.35 The Goldbergs 3.00 Black-ish 3.30 The Big Bang Theory 4.00 **FILM**: Mirror Mirror (2012) (PG) Fantasy, starring Julia Roberts. 6.05 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 **FILM**: Red 2 (2013) (12) Action thriller sequel, starring Bruce Willis. 11.15 Gogglebox 12.20 Celebs Go Dating 3.20 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 4.00 Rude(ish) Tube 4.45 Revenge

DIGITAL

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me 11.35 Location, Location, Location 12.35 Coast vs Country 1.40 Rivers with Jeremy Paxman 2.45 Four in a Bed 5.25 Come Dine with Me 8.00 Jutland: WWI's Greatest Sea Battle 9.00 Japan's Tsunami: Caught on Camera 10.25 Japan's Tsunami: How It Happened 11.30 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown 1.35 Father Ted 2.40 Japan's Tsunami: How It Happened 3.35 Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Casper (1995) (PG) Supernatural family comedy, starring Christina Ricci. 1.00 Win Win (2011) (15) Comedy drama, starring Paul Giamatti. 3.10 Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Ray Romano. 4.55 Johnny English (2003) (PG) Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. 6.40 Morning Glory (2010) (12) Comedy, starring Rachel McAdams. 9.00 AVP: Alien vs Predator (2004) (15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Sanaa Lathan. 10.45 Hush (2008) (15) British road thriller, starring William Ash. 12.30 The Crazies (2010) (15) 2.30 Rec 3: Genesis (2012) (18) 4.00 Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Deadly 60 10.00 Top Gear 1.30 Motorway Cops 2.30 Storage Hunters UK 3.30 **FILM**: Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991) (PG) Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner. 6.20 Gavin & Stacey 7.00 Not Going Out 9.00 Mock the Week 11.00 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 12.00 QI XL 1.00 Not Going Out 1.40 Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled 2.40 Parks and Recreation 3.30 Deadly 60 4.00 Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Tenko 11.00 Sharpe 1.00 Tenko 5.00 One Foot in the Grave 6.30 A Fine Romance 7.00 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 8.00 Maisie Raine 9.00 Taggart 11.00 Waking the Dead 1.20 The Ruby in the Smoke 3.10 Hetty Wainthropp Investigates 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Ninja Warrior 6.30 Futurama 8.15 Game Changers 8.45 The Fantasy Football Club 9.45 Soccer AM 11.30 Kong: Skull Island Special 12.00 Portrait Artist of the Year 2017 1.00 Modern Family 2.00 MacGyver 3.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday 6.00 Supergirl 7.00 The Flash 8.00 **FILM**: Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith (2005) (12) Sci-fi adventure

prequel, starring Hayden Christensen. 10.40 NCIS: Los Angeles 11.40 A League of Their Own 12.40 Duck Quacks Don't Echo 1.40 Police 10/7 5.10 Ninja Warrior 5.35 Futurama

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing 11.00 David Attenborough's Galapagos 2.00 Making Attenborough's Galapagos 3.00 Without a Trace 8.00 Blue Bloods 9.00 Game of Thrones 11.20 Last Week Tonight with John Oliver 11.55 Real Time with Bill Maher 1.05 High Maintenance 1.40 The Wire 2.50 Veep 4.00 Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.10 Beauty and the Beast 6.50 Million Dollar Intern 7.50 The Bill 12.50 EastEnders 3.20 **FILM**: Mr Stink, Family comedy, starring Hugh Bonneville. 4.40 The Boy in the Dress 6.00 My Family 8.00 Inside the Ambulance 9.00 **FILM**: The Dukes of Hazzard (2005) (12) Comedy, starring Seann William Scott and Johnny Knoxville. 11.05 Grimm 12.00 Outnumbered 1.20 Almost Human 2.15 Boston's Finest 3.00 Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers 8.00 Keeping Up Appearances 8.40 dinnerladies 10.00 Last of the Summer Wine 12.00 Boomers 12.45 Only Fools and Horses 4.00 **FILM**: Loc Who's Talking (1989) (12) Comedy, starring Kirstie Alley. 5.50 Only Fools and Horses 9.00 Men Behaving Badly 11.00 Bottom 11.40 Filthy, Rich and Catflap 12.20 Bottom Live 2.40 Bill Hicks – One Night Stand 3.15 Jam 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football League Gold 6.45 Premier League Preview 7.15 Football Gold 7.45 Game Changers 8.15 Premier League Preview 8.45 The Fantasy Football Club 9.45 Soccer AM 11.30 Premier League Preview 12.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday 6.00 Live Under-20s Six Nations Rugby Union, England v Scotland (kick-off 6.15pm). 8.00 Rugby Gold 8.30 Nissan Game of the Day 10.30 Nissan Match Choice 11.30 Gary Neville: The Pundit 12.00 Premier League Highlights 1.30 Premier League Legends 2.00 Premier League Highlights 3.30 Premier League Legends 4.00 Premier League Highlights 5.30 Premier League Legends

Sunday March 12th

	BBC1	BBC2	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5
	SS-GB, 9pm 	Robot Wars, 7pm 	Five Gold Rings, 6.45pm 	The Jump Live Final, 8.30pm 	The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door, 8pm 
DAYTIME	6.00 Breakfast (S) 7.40 Match of the Day (S)(R) 8.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights (S)(R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S) 10.00 The Big Questions (S) 11.00 Sunday Politics (S) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 1.15 News (S) 1.30 Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup (S) 4.00 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 5.00 Songs of Praise (S) 5.35 BBC News (S) 5.50 News (S) 6.00 The Big Painting Challenge (S)	9.00 Countryfile (S)(R) 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) 11.30 Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day (S)(R) 12.00 Simply Nigella (S)(R) 12.30 MOTD2 Extra (S) 1.15 Rivers with Griff Rhys Jones (S)(R) 2.20 FILM Shall We Dance? (2004) (12) (S) 4.00 The House That £100K Built (S)(R) 5.00 Back to the Land with Kate Humble (S)(R) 6.00 Six Nations Rugby Union (S)	9.30 Countrywise: Guide to Britain (S)(R) 10.00 Peston on Sunday (S) 10.55 Wild Australia with Ray Mears (S)(R) 11.25 Chopping Block (S)(R) 12.25 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 1.25 ITV News (S) 1.30 The Voice UK (S)(R) 2.45 Little Big Shots (S)(R) 3.45 The Chase (S)(R) 4.45 Tipping Point (S)(R) 5.45 ITV Regional News (S) 6.00 ITV News (S) 6.15 Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule (S)(R) 6.45 Five Gold Rings (S)	6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 8.25 Frasier (S)(R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch (S) 12.30 The Simpsons (S)(R) 1.30 FILM Cheaper by the Dozen (2003) (PG) (S) 3.20 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces (S)(R) 4.25 Location, Location, Location (S)(R) 5.30 Channel 4 News (S) 6.00 Crufts 2017 Live coverage of the final day of the dog show. Last in the series, (S)	6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S) 10.30 Football on 5: The Championship (S)(R) 11.20 Football on 5: Goal Rush (R) 11.50 The Gadget Show (S)(R) 12.50 FILM Gorillas in the Mist (1988) (12) (S) 3.20 Celebrity Carry on Barging (S)(R) 5.15 Cruising with Jane McDonald (S)(R) 6.10 Inside Windsor Castle Events that shaped the monarchy between 1952 and 1972, (R)
7	7.00 Countryfile Adam Henson presents clips from the Countryfile Archive. (S)	7.00 Robot Wars Dara O Briain and Angela Scanlon present the second heat, as eight teams battle it out to win a single place in the grand final. (S)	7.45 The Voice UK Emma Willis hosts the final night of the live knock-out rounds. (S)		7.00 Inside Windsor Castle A look at 20 years in the life of the Queen and her family. Last in the series. (S)(R)
8	8.00 Call the Midwife Sister Julienne oversees the opening of a family planning clinic. Last in the series. (S)	8.00 Top Gear Matt LeBlanc and Chris Harris go on a road trip across the US in convertible supercars. (S)		8.30 The Jump Live Final The celebrities compete in the Snow Cross and Ski Cross events. (S)	8.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door A former soldier takes the law into his own hands. (S)(R)
9	9.00 SS-GB The army imposes martial law and rounds up members of the resistance. (S)	9.00 Down the Mighty River with Steve Backshall The naturalist travels down the Baliem River in New Guinea from its source to the sea. (S)	9.00 The Good Karma Hospital The first rains of the monsoon season start to fall as the tension between Lydia and Ruby rises. Last in the series. (S)	9.30 Homeland Carrie gets bad news. Saul makes a plan and Quinn accepts his situation. (S)	8.55 5 News Weekend (S)
10	10.00 BBC News (S) 10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 10.30 Match of the Day 2 Highlights of Liverpool v Burnley. (S)	10.00 FILM The Face of an Angel (2014) (15) Premiere. Fact-based drama, with Daniel Bruhl, Kate Beckinsale and Cara Delevingne. (S)	10.00 ITV News; Weather (S) 10.20 The Nightly Show Best Bits Highlights of the second week of the entertainment show. (S) 10.50 Peston on Sunday (S)(R)	10.30 War Child Documentary following three child refugees from Afghanistan and Syria making a dangerous journey across Europe in the hope of finding sanctuary. (S)	9.00 FILM The Equalizer (2014) (15) Premiere. Action thriller, with Denzel Washington and Chloë Grace Moretz. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm. (S)
11	11.00 Would I Lie to You? With Ben Miller, Henning Wehn, Doon Mackichan and Alex Brooker. (S)(R) 11.30 American High School (S)	11.40 Women's Six Nations Highlights Action from the penultimate week of the championship. (S)	11.50 Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights Action from the semi-finals of the competition.	11.40 Gogglebox Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)(R)	11.35 FILM Harry Brown (2009) (18) Crime thriller, starring Michael Caine and Emily Mortimer. Edited to fit time slot (S)
AFTER 12	12.20 The Celebrity Apprentice USA (S) 1.40 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 1.45 BBC News (S)	12.10 Taboo (S)(R) 1.05 Taboo (S)(R) 2.05 Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) 3.05 Holby City (S)(R) 4.05 This Is BBC Two (S)	12.40 Jackpot247 3.00 Chopping Block (S)(R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)	12.45 FILM Mama (2013) (15) Horror, starring Jessica Chastain. (S) 2.25 The Last Leg (S)(R) 3.20 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) 4.15 Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 4.55 Jamie's Comfort Food (S)(R) 5.05 Fifteen to One (S)(R)	1.20 SuperCasino 3.10 Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh (S)(R) 4.00 Witches: A Century of Murder (S)(R) 4.50 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.15 Wildlife SOS (S)(R) 5.40 Angels o Jarm (S)(R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.10** You've Been Framed! Gold **6.30** Emmerdale **9.10** Coronation Street **11.40** The Voice UK **1.00** 2Awesome: 2Awesome **1.05** 2Awesome: Guidance **1.40** 2Awesome: Fame High **2.00** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **2.30** 2Awesome: LA Story **2.50** You've Been Framed! Gold **3.45** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **5.20** FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005) (U) Period fantasy, starring Emma Thompson. **6.20** FYI Daily **6.25** FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005) (U) Concluded. **7.15** FILM: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) (PG) Comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. **8.15** FYI Daily **8.20** FILM: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) (PG) Concluded. **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.25** Ibiza Weekender **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Inspector Morse **8.00** Heartbeat **10.05** Murder, She Wrote **11.10** FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) **12.10** FYI Daily **12.15** FILM: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) (PG) **1.00** A Touch of Frost **3.05** FILM: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **4.05** FYI Daily **4.10** FILM: Carry On Up the Jungle (1970) (PG) Concluded. **5.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** It'll Be Alright on the Night **10.00** Carry On Forever **11.05** FILM: The Constant Gardener (2005) (15) Political thriller, with Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz. **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** FILM: The Constant Gardener (2005) (15) **1.30** Inspector Morse **3.20** May the Best House Win **5.05** On the Buses **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Revolution and Romance: Musical Masters of the 19th Century **8.00** Dazzling Duets at the BBC **9.00** FILM: The Lunchbox (2013) (PG) Premiere. Romantic drama, starring Irrfan Khan and Nimrat Kaur. **10.40** Sound Waves: The Symphony of Physics **11.40** The Horizon Guide to Mars **12.40** Edwardian Insects on Film **1.40** Bullseyes and Beer - When Darts Hit Britain: Timeshift **2.40** Dazzling Duets at the BBC **3.40** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Made in Chelsea **6.50** Melissa & Joey **7.40** Baby Daddy **8.40** Hollyoaks **11.15** FILM: Planet 51 (2009) (U) Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Dwayne

Johnson. **1.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.00** Black-ish **2.30** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** FILM: The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (2010) (12) Romantic fantasy sequel, with Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** FILM: Sleepy Hollow (1999) (15) Horror, starring Johnny Depp. **12.05** Celebs Go Dating **1.10** Celebs Go Dating: The Finale **2.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.00** Gap Year **3.55** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Building the Dream **10.00** Walks with My Dog **11.00** Vet on the Hill **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Nazi Megastructures **9.00** Father Ted **10.05** Man Down **11.05** 24 Hours in A&E **12.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.10** Man Down **2.10** Nazi Megastructures **3.10** Food Unwrapped **3.40** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Escape from the Planet of the Apes (1971) (PG) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Roddy McDowall. **1.00** Dunston Checks In (1996) (PG) **2.45** King Kong (1976) (PG) Fantasy adventure remake, starring Jeff Bridges. **5.25** Carry On Regardless (1961) (U) Slapstick comedy, starring Sid James. **7.20** Chronicle (2012) (12) Sci-fi thriller, starring Dane DeHaan. **9.00** Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (2011) (12) Action adventure sequel, starring Tom Cruise. **11.35** High Crimes (2002) (12) Thriller, starring Ashley Judd. **1.50** Magic Magic (2013) (15) **3.55** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.30 Top Gear Patagonia Special **10.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **11.00** Traffic Cops **12.20** Jay Leno's Garage **2.20** Top Gear **4.20** Best of Red Bull Soapbox Race **5.20** Top Gear Patagonia Special **8.00** Traffic Cops **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** QI XL **11.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **12.00** Crackanory **12.30** Mock the Week **1.10** Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special **1.50** The Last Man on Earth **2.15** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **3.05** Parks and Recreation **3.30** Crackanory **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.00 Last Tango in Halifax **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Mansfield Park **4.00** Catherine Cookson's The Tide of Life **7.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** New Tricks **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Ninja Warrior **8.00** Futurama **9.00** Supergirl **10.00** The Flash **11.00** WWE Raw Hls **12.00** Futurama **1.30** Modern Family **6.00** The Simpsons **8.00** Wild Things **9.00** Hawaii Five-0 **10.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.00** MacGyver **12.00** The Force: Essex **1.00** Stop, Search, Seize **2.00** Arrow **3.00** Air Ambulance ER **3.50** Police 10/7

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Without a Trace **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Fortitude **10.00** Billions **11.10** FILM: Phil Spector (2013) (15) Fact-based drama, starring Al Pacino and Helen Mirren. **1.00** The Wire **2.15** Veep **4.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.00 Beauty and the Beast **6.50** Bondi Rescue **7.20** FILM: Mr Stink. **8.40** The Boy in the Dress **10.00** MasterChef USA **1.00** Dynamo: Magician Impossible **2.00** Doctor Who **4.00** My Family **6.00** Outnumbered **8.00** Honey I Bought the House **9.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with James Corden **10.00** Jonathan Creek **11.10** Code Black **12.10** Outnumbered **12.50** The Honourable Woman **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **7.50** dinnerladies **9.05** The Two Ronnies **10.00** Boomers **10.35** One Foot in the Grave **12.00** Only Fools and Horses **2.00** FILM: Look Who's Talking (1989) (12) Comedy, starring Kirstie Alley. **3.50** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** Men Behaving Badly **11.00** The Thick of It **11.40** Psychoville 2 **12.20** Limmy's Show **1.40** House of Fools **3.15** Yes, Prime Minister **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Legends **6.30** Premier League Highlights **9.00** The Sunday Supplement **10.00** Goals on Sunday **11.30** Live SPFL Football. Celtic v Rangers (kick-off 12.00pm). **2.30** Fight Night **3.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Liverpool v Burnley (kick-off 4.00pm). **6.30** SPFL Highlights **7.00** Football Gold **7.30** Live La Liga Football. Real Madrid v Real Betis (kick-off 7.45pm). **10.00** Premier League Highlights **10.30** Goals on Sunday **12.00** Premier League Highlights **12.30** SPFL Highlights **1.00** Goals on Sunday **2.30** Premier League Years **4.30** Premier League Highlights **5.00** SPFL Highlights **5.30** Premier League 100 Club



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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Tell me more, Rizzo...

By James Richings

FOR five days you'll be able to go back to the Fabulous 50s when Grease arrives at the New Theatre.

Based on the popular 1978 film, Danny, Sandy, Rizzo, Kenickie and the gang will all be at the New Theatre from Tuesday, March 28 to Saturday, April 1 as they embark on a 10-month tour across the UK.

Louisa Lytton who plays Rizzo at the George Street theatre, revealed she can draw on similarities with her most notable role to help get into character.

Louisa played Ruby Allen on EastEnders from 2005 to 2006.

"My character in EastEnders (Ruby Allen) and Rizzo are similar because they're both 16-years-old and they've had to act mature because they've had so much go on in their lives already," she told The Oxford Paper.

"I grew up watching the film and I love it - I think the acting is amazing so it does help (watching the film getting into character) but you shouldn't rely on that.

"You need to make the role your own so I don't really watch stuff like that too much because then you'll



start to imitate the original character rather than doing your own thing."

The musical's visit to Oxford is the second stop of their 10-month tour, which will see the gang travel from Sunderland to Torquay.

Expect popular numbers such as Summer Nights, Greased Lightnin', Hopelessly Devoted to You and many more giving audiences every opportunity to sing along.

And that interaction with the audience is something Louisa is looking forward to.

"That's why I love theatre because you get that instant response from a live audience, especially in a show like this where the audience can interact and get involved," she said.

"Don't get me wrong, I love film and TV but with live theatre, there's no other feeling.

"Also, I think it's important for all kids to go to the theatre because it's a time where they have to put their phones in their pockets, totally switch off and be engaged in something that isn't on a screen.

"Every single person sees themselves in a character on stage or on TV, and that's why the show works so well because they can relate to a specific character on stage.

"And even for us as actors, during rehearsals we're saying 'oh, we were like that at school' so it's a typical teenage thing - so it will relate to them well."

Tickets cost from £15 to £51.50.

Visit <http://www.atgtickets.com/shows/grease/new-theatre-oxford> for more details

You're not mad...

COMEDY: Jenny Eclair arrives at The Theatre Chipping Norton on Saturday, March 18.

The 56-year-old arrives at the Spring Street venue as part of her How to Be A Middle Aged Woman (Without Going Insane) UK tour.

This performance is a repeat of her 2015 visit. It begins at 7.45pm and tickets cost £19.

Taking people on

COMEDY: Reginald D Hunter is on the road again, and he'll be at The Mill Arts Centre in Banbury on Sunday, March 17.

He comes to the Spiceball Park venue as part of his Some People v Reginald D. Hunter preview, in which he will talk about his life since moving to the UK.

It starts at 8pm. Tickets £17.

Lighting up screen

FILM: The Oscar-winning Moonlight will be screened at the Corn Exchange in Wallingford on Sunday and Monday.

Starring Trevante Rhodes, Naomie Harris and Mahershala Ali as a gay black man living in the US.

Ali won an Oscar for his performance.

Tickets cost £7.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Always popular Laura's back

By James Richings

LAURA Marling's new album will be released tomorrow, Friday, March 10, but it didn't come without challenges.

The folk musician admitted she originally wrote *Semper Femina* 'through the eyes of a man writing about a woman' but realised that 'you didn't need to write it from a man's perspective'.

And as she gears herself up for her visit to the O2 Academy on Monday, Laura hopes the record will strike a chord with women all over the country.

"The title comes from a Virgil poem and the full quote from the poem is 'Varium et mutabile semper femina,'" she said.

"I might be pronouncing it wrong but the translation is 'fickle and changeable, always a woman', so it's better off as just 'always a woman'.

"We are somewhat accustomed to seeing women through men's eyes, and naturally that was my inclination to try and take some power over that.

"But very quickly I realised that the powerful thing to do was to look at women through a woman's eyes.

"It was a little stumble at the beginning of the record, a self conscious stumble - but yes that's where that came from."

Laura burst onto the scene in 2008

when her debut album *Alas, I Cannot Swim* proved to be very popular with folk enthusiasts and critics.

It led the then 18-year-old to her first Mercury Prize nomination.

Her follow up albums have also gained her similar success with *I Speak Because I Can* (2010) earning her a Brit and NME Award in 2011.

The album was also her first to make it into the top 10 of the UK album charts, with her next records, *A Creature I Don't Know* (2011), *Once I Was an Eagle* (2013) and *Short Movie* (2015), all following suite.

But in recent years, Laura has turned her attention to directing music videos, and hopes to do more of it in the near future.

"The directing was amazing as I don't often get the opportunity, or I've never been inclined to give visual representation to my music personally," Laura said.

"It's become the way that music is released now is to have a visual accompaniment.

"And so to give my lucid dreaming quality to this, which is where I get a lot of imagery from, to give that form was an amazing experience requires a lot of people to be in that image with you.

"So you have to draw so many people in to that image with you."



"That annoying extra prop that costs lots of money, has to be there because it has symbolic value.

"It was fun, really fun." Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £23.06.

X Factor at the O2

MUSIC: Former X Factor contestant Lucy Spraggan will be at the O2 Academy on Wednesday, March 15.

The 25-year-old arrives at the Cowley Road venue to perform tracks off her latest album *I Hope You Don't Mind Me Writing*.

Lucy appeared on the X Factor in 2012. Tickets cost £16 and it starts at 7pm.

A proper Charlie!

COMEDY: Comedian Charlie Baker will be at the Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot.

Coming to the Station Road venue with his Charlie Baker is the Hit Polisher tour, the show contains Charlie's gags and Sean Hargreaves, who will perform popular songs with a 'polish' on the organ.

Tickets cost from £12 to £15 and it starts at 8pm.

A rough night out

MUSIC: Witney-based covers band Roughcut Ruby will be performing at The Nag's Head in Abingdon on Friday, March 17.

Richard Horrocks on bass, Paul Haines on drums, Jim Smith on guitar, and vocalist Helen Harrison will play hits from the likes of Maroon 5, The Wombats, and Stevie Wonder. The free gig starts at 9pm.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Maddy's lifetime in music

By James Richings

MADDY Prior has been in the music business for nearly 50 years.

The 69-year-old, who has been a member of bands such as Steeleye Span and The Carnival Band has travelled all over the world, entertaining folk fans far and wide.

But she'll make her debut at the Holywell Music Room in Oxford on Sunday, March 19.

She'll be joined by fellow musicians Giles Lewin, one of the founders of Bellowhead and Hannah James, who will embark on a solo tour in April.

The trio will perform tracks off their album 3 For Joy.

Their inaugural gig at the Holywell Street venue will have a 'mixture of material'.

"The three of us are working on a new album with lots of songs about birds, and we will also be doing the Hare, which is a piece I wrote a while ago," she said.

"The Hare has been resurrected which is really lovely.

"We will also do some traditional pieces from our album 3 For Joy, so it will be a mixture of material."

In the past half a decade, Maddy has been part of 51 albums releases, with 16 of those being solo albums.

Maddy Prior and top right, Hannah James and below, Giles Lewis
Hannah's picture: www.ellylucas.co.uk



Best known for sharing her vocals on other records, Maddy has worked with many performers in her career. They vary to collaborating with her daughter Rose Kemp to the 23 members of Steeleye Span.

So you can imagine choosing her most memorable collaboration was a hard question for Maddy to answer.

"I have enjoyed playing with all of them so I couldn't isolate one," she said. "I enjoyed playing live with Status Quo, and of course a lot of the work we have done with Steeleye has been fantastic.

"It's been a joy to work with Hannah and Giles, which is a lot more focussed and sparse, a lot of a capella harmony, very different in its energy level, but very precise."

Maddy added: "There is something fantastic about singing particularly and making music with other people.

"It's a real community effort, and involves strains and stresses of course, and sometimes isn't so easy in many ways, but it's what I have learned how to do, and what I enjoy doing the most.

Tickets cost £18.15 and it starts at 7pm.



Leech in the city

MUSIC: London-based covers band Leech will be gigging at The Bell in Wantage on Saturday, March 11.

The trio will perform songs from The Kings of Leon, Pink Floyd, Nirvana, Kaiser Chiefs, Sex Pistols, The Jam, Oasis, The Who and many more at the Reading Road venue.

The free gig starts at 5pm.

Never gonna give up

MUSIC: 80s singing sensation Rick Astley will be at the New Theatre on Saturday, March 18.

The singer-songwriter, known for his best selling hit Never Gonna Give You Up, arrives at the George Street venue following the release of his latest album 50, which reached number one in the UK.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £26.65.

Enjoy the craic!

MUSIC: High Wycombe based band Hustler will be at O'Neill's on George Street, Oxford next Friday, March 17.

The five-piece group will showcase popular hits by The Killers, Taylor Swift, U2, Daft Punk, Lenny Kravitz, Bruno Mars and many more.

The free gig will start at 9.30pm.

"Best bit of the weekend: Sunday Lunch!"



I defy anyone to not experience a watering of the mouth when the words "Sunday lunch" are spoken!

Memories of going to a restaurant or local pub to enjoy hearty platefuls of roasted "this and that" all smothered in thick gravy is enough to send anyone's heart racing at the sheer thought!

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Daren Fisher – Millets Farm.

The new menu sees Roast Sirloin of Beef return as a popular favourite, as well as Herb Crusted Hake and Honey & Lemon Roasted half crown of Chicken (all hearty dishes indeed). Starters include Pan-Seared Scallops and Chicken & Basil Ravioli but also some delicate touches from chef such as Artichoke, Blood Orange & Feta Salad.

If you make it to puddings (....always an "if") then favourites like Cheese & Biscuits will always delight as well as Sticky Toffee Fool, Chocolate & Mint Parfait and my personal delight Banana & Raisin Brioche Bread and Butter Pudding!

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Fri, Mar 10, 8pm

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Mon, Mar 13, 7pm

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Laura Marling, one of the most talented and prolific young musicians of a generation, announces a UK tour in support of her highly-anticipated sixth studio album, *Semper Femina*.

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The Theatre, Chipping Norton

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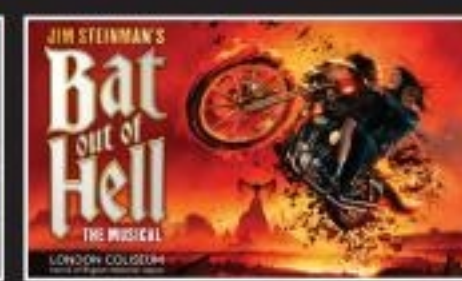
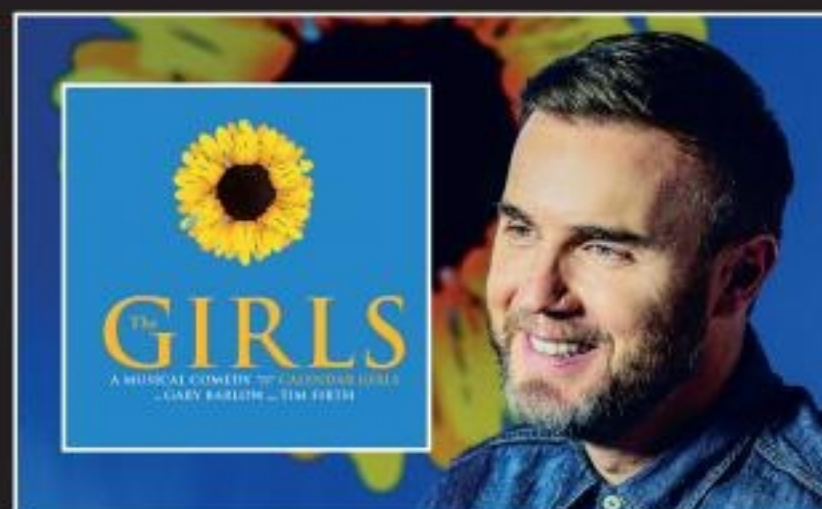
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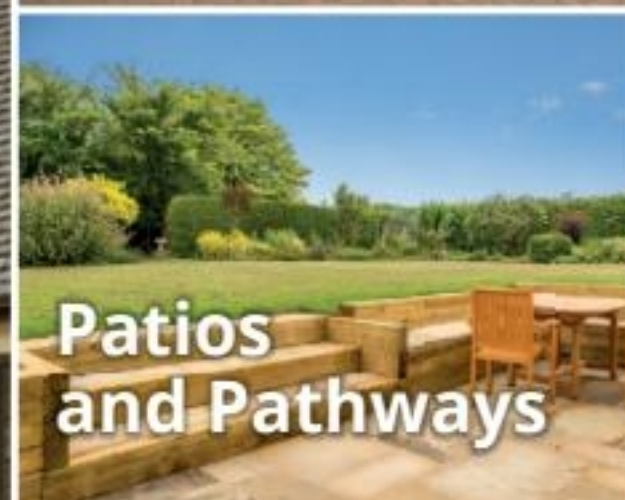
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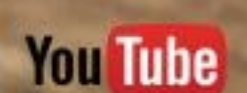
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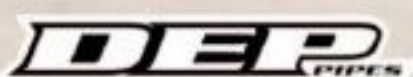
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Ford Fiesta ST200 - a tweaked ST

By Tony Yates

AS a child I used to spend most of my weekends watching Bodie & Doyle strut their stuff on TV, whilst also watching them messing about doing handbrake turns and smoking the tyres around the streets of London in a selection of cars from the likes of British Leyland and Ford to

name but a few.

Of course as you get older - reality slips in and you realise it was all fake and just for the purpose of TV entertainment - but as a young boy, it didn't stop me spending many hours in my garden acting out scenes from the latest episode where I was the good guy in my Ford Fiesta XR2

chasing the baddies.

Even now 30 years on, Ford's ST200 has started to ignite all my senses and prove once again why Ford continues to dominate the 'Hot Hatch' arena.

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I also expected the little Fiesta to sound a little wheezy - but to be honest - I was wrong about that too. Because instead what you do get is something that sounds like the Knights Templars are having their own conquest right

under your seat. Take it from me; it really is the most wonderful noise you can hear bellowing from that Eco Boost engine.

On the Road

As with all of Ford's hot hatches - it changes direction like it's on rails and it holds the road like a F1 car on super sticky slicks. Don't get me wrong, it does have its faults. But when it comes down to getting it on - nothing on the road as small as the ST200 can even get close to how it handles on the twisty stuff.

Plus, Ford has also stiffened up the suspension and updated the front anti-roll bar, meaning the ST200 now feels more solid than a standard ST - which also helps improve the ride without the need for back surgery every few weeks.

Safety and Technology

On the inside you get Recaro seating and branded ST interior details - but I found the Sat-Nav/Radio far too complex. I am not joking either - I actually think it's more complex than a Rubik's Cube. But then again I am

not that tech savvy - so maybe I need to take in some training or read the handbook.

Also, as its the ST200 you also get a lot of additional features such as; cruise control, privacy glass, Thatcham Cat1 alarm, full ST bodystyling kit, unique ST200 badges, rain sensing wipers, auto headlights, puddle lamps, Mykey technology, 17" matt black alloys, Sony DAB radio, and a whole host of sophisticated systems including Electronic Torque Vectoring Control.

To Sum Up

Epic - but, I would buy the standard Fiesta ST - unless the ST200 really is your dream car.

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2013-13	MINI COOPER 1.6 COUNTRYMAN, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Cruise Control, 40300 Miles	£9,995
2009-09	HONDA CR-V 2.2 CTDI EX, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather Seats, 48150 Miles	£9,795
2009-09	HONDA CR-V 2.2 CTDI EX, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather, Sat Nav, Sunroof, 48150 Miles	£9,795
2011-11	NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 DCI N-TEC, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, pAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather Seats, 65945 Miles	£9,495
2011-61	AUDI A5 1.4 TFSI SPORT DSG, Silver, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather Seats, 36800 Miles	£9,495
2012-62	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC S AUTO, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 13650 Miles	£8,995
2013-13	HONDA CIVIC 1.8 SE, GREY, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Bluetooth, 22300 Miles	£8,995
2012-12	FORD MONDEO 1.6 TURBO ECOBOOST, Grey, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Only 15200 Miles	£8,995
2013-13	NISSAN JUKE 1.6 ACENTA PREMIUM, Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 28450 Miles	£8,695
2014-14	FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECOBOOST ZETEC, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 13900 Miles	£8,495
2015-15	NISSAN NOTE 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 6500 Miles	£8,295
2015-65	FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC, Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 13350 Miles	£7,995
2013-13	CITROEN DS3 1.6 STYLE PLUS, Grey, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 20886 Miles	£7,995
2013-63	HONDA CIVIC 1.8 SE, Brown, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 40500 Miles	£7,695
2013-13	MINI ONE 1.6, Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 4320 Miles	£7,495
2014-64	FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC, Grey, 3 Dr, RCL, pAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 7300 Miles	£7,495
2014-64	KIA PICANTO 3 1.2 AUTO, Green, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Park Assist, 23850 Miles	£7,495
2014-63	NISSAN NOTE 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 20800 Miles	£7,295
2012-62	FORD FOCUS 1.0 ECOBOOST ZETEC, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 37295 Miles	£6,995
2012-12	HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES AUTO, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 39700 Miles	£6,995
2013-13	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 BLACK EDITION, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 14900 Miles	WAS £7,495 NOW £6,995
2014-64	PEUGEOT 108 ACTIVE 1.0, Red, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Bluetooth, 30200 Miles	£6,495
2010-60	MINI ONE 1.6 MINIMALIST, Red, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 25050 Miles	£6,495
2010-60	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRi, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 23300 Miles	£6,495
2014-14	FORD KA 1.2 ZETEC, White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 9620 Miles	£5,995
2011-61	VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2 MATCH, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 50500 Miles	£5,995
2012-62	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 N-TEC, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 27600 Miles	£5,795
2014-14	SKODA CITIGO 1.0 SPORT, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 13000 Miles	£5,795
2012-62	SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 S22, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, ONLY 13500 Miles	£5,795
2010-60	SKODA OCTAVIA 1.9 TDI SE, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 68500 Miles	£5,795
2014-14	KIA PICANTO 1 1.0, White, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, Low Tax, 27200 Miles	£5,495
2011-61	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 46000 Miles	£5,495
2012-12	SKODA FABIA 1.2SE, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 36900 Miles	£5,495
2014-64	FORD KA 1.2 EDGE, White, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, WC, 16300 Miles	£5,495
2011-11	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.7 CDTi SE AUTO, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 1/2 Leather, Sunroof, 44000 Miles	£4,995
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2012-62	HYUNDAI I10 1.2 CLASSIC, CL, PAS, EW, Low Tax, 29700 Miles	£4,495
2009-09	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRi NAV, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 72650 Miles	£4,495
2012-12	CITROEN C1 VTR+, Silver, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 15500 Miles	£4,295
2005-55	CITROEN C3 1.4 HDI XTR, Black, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 54892 Miles	£4,295
2009-59	KIA PICANTO 1.1 STRIKE, Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 39900 Miles	£2,995
2009-59	KIA PICANTO 1.1 STRIKE, Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, 40000 Miles	£2,995
2004-56	TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 T3, Blue, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 79800 Miles	£2,795

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Volvo Cars gives the new face of Volvo to the V40

Volvo Cars gives its bestselling V40 and V40 Cross Country the new face of Volvo for Model Year 2017, with trim updates across the range.

CENTRAL to the model year exterior updates are new LED 'Thor's Hammer' headlights, resulting in a confident new look shared with Volvo's new XC90, S90 and V90. In the UK, these all-LED lights mark the V40 and V40 Cross Country out as the first models in the segment to get LED headlights as standard across the range. Also new are grille meshes featuring the updated and more visually striking Volvo Iron Mark.

"The V40 is the best-selling Volvo model in the UK, making it a vital car for the company. With the updates for Model

Year 2017, we're making this already very successful model even more attractive to customers," said Nick Connor, Managing Director of Volvo Car UK.

The exterior update includes the addition of eight new wheels across the V40 and V40 Cross Country models, and five new colours to the V40 range, including the completely new Amazon Blue and Denim Blue, as well as three colours already used by other models in the Volvo Car UK portfolio: Bursting Blue, Mussel Blue and Luminous Sand.

Continuing its innovative

approach to powertrain engineering, Volvo has reduced CO2 emissions on its popular D2 manual powertrain to just 89 g/km in all trim level and wheel options.

The V40's trim structure has also been changed in line with that of the new XC90. Customers can now choose from Momentum and Inscription versions, along with the sports-inspired R-Design and the rugged Cross Country.

In a cue taken from the award-winning Volvo Concept Estate, a new upholstery called City Weave will

be added. Several new interior panel trims will also be offered: Milled Aluminium, Black Grid Aluminium and Stealth Aluminium. New tread plates will be added for the R-Design and Inscription trim levels, and an updated key fob with the new Volvo logo will be available.

Volvo On Call

The Volvo On Call smartphone app, which allows remote access and control over a wide range of in-car features, receives a substan-

tial update. Volvo On Call already delivers wearable connectivity (Apple Watch/Android Wear), and the new Microsoft Band 2 connectivity now enables voice-control for certain features when using Windows 10-based smartphones.

Other updates to Volvo On Call include a calendar integration function that connects your personal calendar to the mobile app, allowing it to send calendar appointment destinations directly to your navigation on request. For 2016, Volvo On Call will broaden its scope and provide support for

up to 10 Volvo vehicles, giving access to all the usual functions across a fleet of cars.

Volvo will also introduce Flic button compatibility with Volvo On Call. Flic allows you to program a single physical 'smart button' to perform several tasks, such as locking your car, and can be used as a shortcut to Volvo On Call services.

Volvo now also offers support for Windows 10 with a new version of the Volvo On Call application that can be used on regular PCs and tablets to interact with your car.





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Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Volvo range: Urban 18.6-74.3 (15.2-3.8), Extra Urban 34.9-91.1 (8.1-3.1), Combined 26.4-83.1 (10.7-3.4). Official CO₂ emission figures 249-88g/km.

Model shown for illustration purpose only. *Important Information: Contract hire provided by Lex Autolease Limited trading as Volvo Car Leasing, SK3 0RB. 18s & over, subject to status. You will not own the vehicle and it must be returned in good condition to avoid further charges. Excess mileage charges 11.62 per mile. Subject to availability at participating dealers. Offer ends 31/03/17. Maintenance includes routine servicing, tyres, replacement parts and repairs due to fair wear and tear. Repairs or replacements from accidental/malicious damage and damage caused by driver misuse/abuse are excluded. The vehicle must be serviced in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines and by an approved service dealer. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766. VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda range: Urban 28.0 (10.1) - 74.3 (3.8). Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5) - 88.3 (3.2). Combined 39.2 (7.2) - 83.1 (3.4). CO

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results. Retail sales only, subject to availability for vehicles registered between 01.01.17 and 31.03.17 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% APR Representative Mazda Personal Contract Purchase available on all Mazda2 and 2017 Mazda3 models. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarantee may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 1SR. Model shown: Mazda2 75ps SE, OTR from £12,595. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£660). 2017 Mazda3 120ps SE, OTR from £17,795. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£670). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. ^oTest drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Calls to 0844/0845 numbers will be charged at 7 pence per minute plus your standard network charge. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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MOT: June 2017
Colour: Almond Green
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23.03.17

Kia Rio Automatic



Year: 2003
Miles: 66,000
MOT: Mar 2018
Colour: Met Red
Price: £595

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5838027 / 30.3.17

Mazda MX-5 1.8



Year: 2004
Miles: 66,300
Colour: Silver
MOT: August 2017
Price: £2,595 ono

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Miles: 60,200
MOT: Mar 2018
Colour: Dark Blue
Price: £1,495 ono

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30.3.17

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MOT: May 2017
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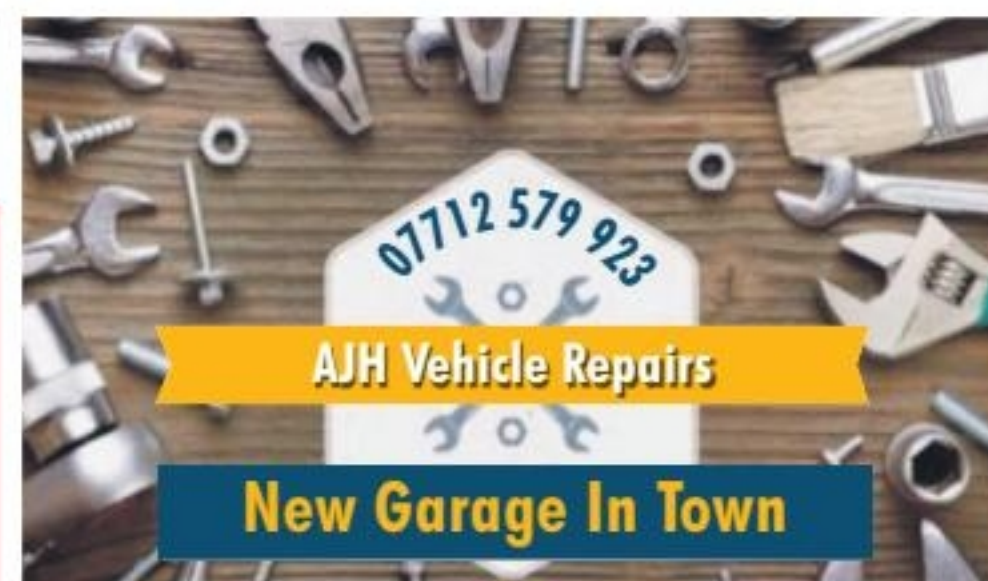
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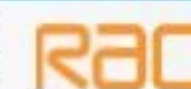
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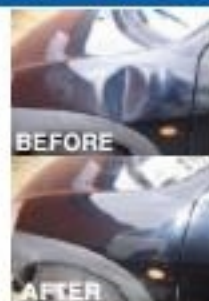


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WANTED: Morris Marina parts, mudflats front and Rear, chrome wheel trim rings, alloys, headrests, headlights, H4 radio etc. Tel. 07598 938 918

BEDSIDE chest no longer needed, £10 01993 852328

CARAVAN Aquavo water carrier no longer needed. £15 01993 85232

AL-KO tow ball coupling not needed. 01993 852328

NEST of tables. No longer needed. £10 01993 852328

MAKITA 24 volt SDS drill case charger bits all very good condition. No battery £50 01993 843581

CHILDS metal framed swing with blue seat. Free to collector. 01865863915

SHOES Charles Tyrwhitt, black size 8. Boxed as new. £50 01295 255173

WOODEN coffee table. Excellent condition. £25 ono 01993705570

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DARK blue zip front burberry top gear. £64 01295 710454

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MENS leather coat in black. ¾ length. Size XXL £75 ono 01491 835141

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Kit competition

A COMPETITION has been launched for football fanatic children to get their hands on a new kit for their team next season.

Funding for junior clubs is often hard to come by, which is why local firm Recognition Express has launched a competition in Oxfordshire for under-16 teams to nominate their unsung heroes.

To be in with a chance of winning a complete set of new football shirts, shorts and socks for your team's 2017/18 season in a design of your choosing, all you have to do is nominate somebody whose tireless work deserves recognition.

Andy Olejnik, director of Recognition Express Oxfordshire, said: "Every football club has an unsung hero whether it be a coach, player, supporter, groundsman or someone who works tirelessly on match days and behind the scenes, always going the extra mile for the team."

"We want to recognise the contribution these unsung heroes make to junior football teams."

"In junior clubs this could also be a teacher, parent or even a grandparent who turns out to help come rain or shine."

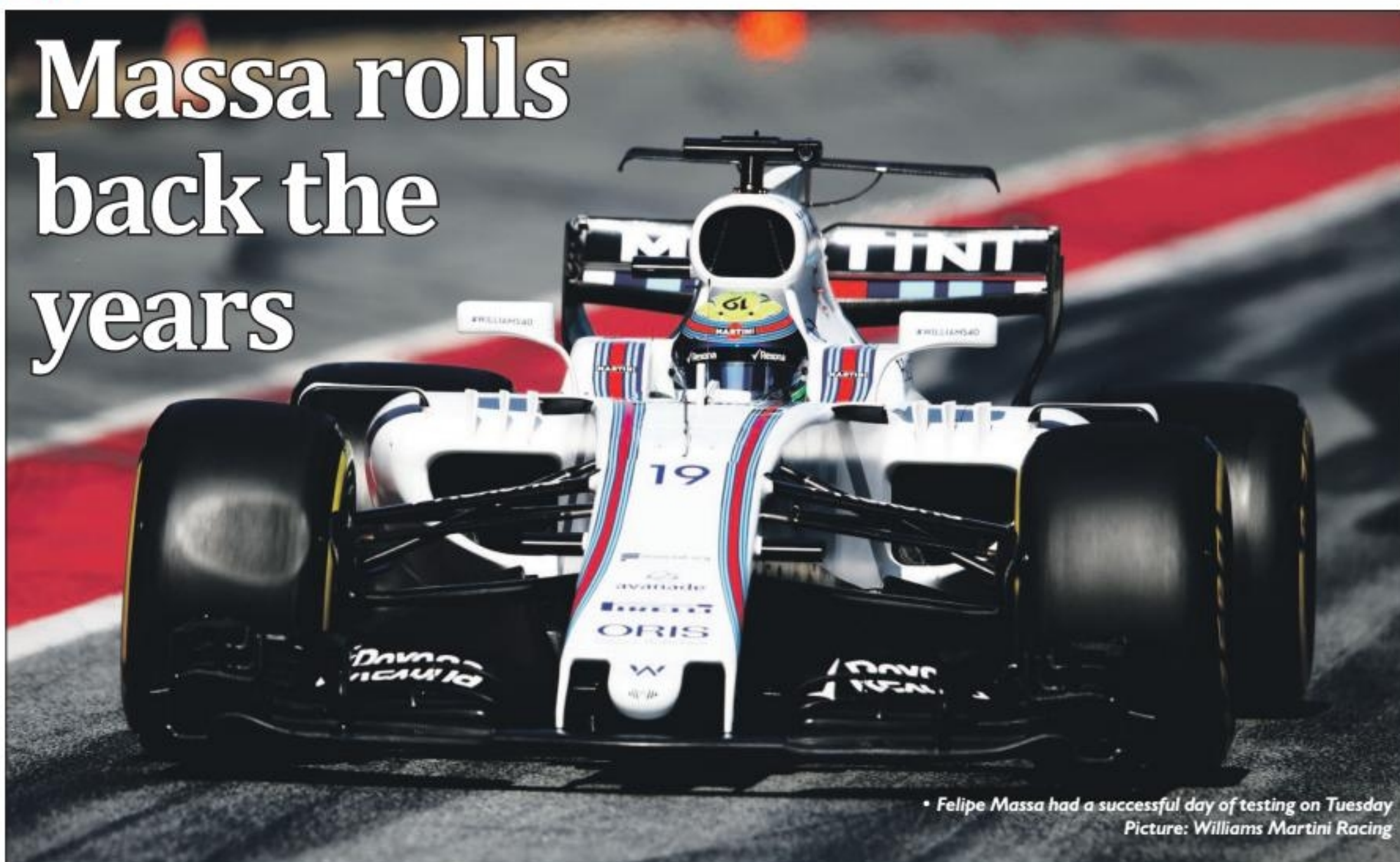
"We wanted to give something back to the community we serve. It makes sense for us to combine by donating a new team strip to a local junior football club with recognising an unsung hero."

Anyone can nominate a junior football club hero. The competition is open to all under-16s junior football clubs playing in the Oxfordshire area.

To enter, visit tinyurl.com/zkkdrxd and complete the entry form. The competition closes on April 7 and the winner will be announced on April 18.

The football hero will be presented with the team's new kit in September in time for the start of the season.

Massa rolls back the years



• Felipe Massa had a successful day of testing on Tuesday
Picture: Williams Martini Racing

F1

By Adam Flinn

FELIPE Massa was the form man on day one of the second pre-season test, setting the fastest time of the day and completing the most laps.

The veteran Williams racer did 168 laps of the Spanish track of Catalunya and ended top of the table with a time of 1.19.726 – almost two tenths quicker than Daniel Ricciardo's Red Bull.

The extended running will be of welcome relief to the Grove-based team, after getting limited track time during the first test last week because of Lance Stroll's troubles.

The 18-year-old rookie spun twice and crashed once during his two days on track, leading to Williams having to abandon the final day of the test altogether.

"It was a very long day but it was definitely a great one for the team," said Massa.

"We managed to do 168 laps so for the car, the team and the reliability, it was definitely a great day."

"We're still at the beginning of the year and there's so many things to do and to understand, to figure out where we are compared to the others, but it's a positive day."

Enstone-based Renault had a tougher day, but Jolyon Palmer and Nico Hulkenberg still managed 73

laps between them.

Palmer's running in the morning was curtailed due to a precautionary power unit change, but Hulkenberg was able to complete his programme.

Renault's chief technical officer Bob Bell said: "Overall, it was a useful day where we completed most of the tests we wanted to, despite running for fewer laps than originally planned."

"We did start with a disappointing morning for Jolyon, but this gave way to a more positive afternoon for Nico, especially with respectable pace shown on the soft compound tyres."

Banbury-based Haas had a solid day of running with Kevin Magnussen completing 81 laps and setting the

eighth-fastest time of the day.

The team suffered a few issues in the afternoon, but said it was nothing major.

Team principal Guenther Steiner said: "We had a very productive morning, learned a lot and we managed to get a lot of laps in."

"The afternoon was not as good as we had a few small problems that meant we didn't get the running in we wanted, but it's all part of testing and no big panic."

Testing continued yesterday as the Oxfordshire Guardian went to press, with the final two days of running today and tomorrow before the start of the season in Australia on March 27.

Blues too strong for lame Stags

Rugby League

OXFORD RL thrashed Hemel Stags 40-12 on Sunday to open their Kingstone Press League 1 with aplomb and record their second highest ever win.

Inspired by man of the match and hat-trick hero Casey Canterbury, Oxford scored 40 unanswered points, bookended by Hemel tries.

It was the Blues' second biggest ever win, bettered only by a 46-10 victory over Hemel the last time the two sides met.

The game started with an early try – against his old club – by Hemel's Jorge Richardson.

But hosts Oxford responded emphatically as Canterbury scored two tries to give the hosts the lead after 24 minutes.

While the scoreboard kept blowing over in the fierce wind, the Oxford scoreline kept ticking over, with two more tries.

The first was a crash-over from Callum Bustin, which was followed by a try from the conveniently named Callum Windley to give the Tilsley Park side a 24-6 lead at half-time.



• Hat-trick hero Casey Canterbury. Picture: @Oxford_RL

The second half began with two disallowed Oxford tries, one on each wing, before forward Dwaine McRae and Bustin extended the lead.

The dominant blues finished their scoring when Canterbury completed

his hat-trick with 10 minutes to go. The Stags still had time to reply with a crash-over try from Brad Clavering.

The Blues host Workington Town on Sunday.



• Oxford City Star Alan Green attacks. Picture: @OxfordCityStars

Stars still losing their shine

Ice hockey

MID-TABLE Oxford City Stars' season continues to peter out after a 3-2 defeat at Streatham on Sunday.

Despite beating their London opposition 7-0 on the same ice in January, Simon Anderson's side left the Streatham Ice Arena pointless.

The Stars played well but fell behind early on when George Norcliffe swept the puck past Mark Duffy after six minutes.

Man of the match Duffy needed to be on hand to thwart the Redhawks on several more occasions.

Jaroslav Cesky forced Oxford back onto level terms in the 14th minute with a backhand flick.

After a goalless second period, centreman Callum Best reinstated the Redhawks' lead just a minute into the final period before Hallam Wilson restored parity for the Stars for a second time after 48 minutes.

Despite twice clawing their way back into the match, Oxford were hit with a hammer blow when Norcliffe tapped in a rebound to net his brace on 55 minutes.

There was no way back for the Stars, who are now winless on the road in their last three matches.

City 'Mare in Weston

Oxford City

By George Welch

OXFORD City boss Mark Jones voiced his disappointment at his players after the Hoops were comfortably beaten 3-0 at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday.

A first-half strike from Dayle Grubb and a double from Bradley Ash either side of half-time helped the seaside team to back-to-back wins, leaving them just two points behind City in the middle of the National League South table.

Jones would have been keen to extend his side's four match unbeaten run to consolidate their position, but that never looked likely from the moment Weston took the lead on 20 minutes.

Despite starting brightly, the Hoops fell behind when a Weston counter attack saw Seagulls skipper Grubb breakaway and make no mistake to fire beyond Craig Hill via a wicked bounce off the uneven goalmouth.

The goal knocked the wind out of City, leading to a significant spell of pressure from the home side, which they duly utilised.

Just after the half hour mark Weston doubled their advantage when a missed interception released Ash who scored with a speculative effort.

The hosts were dominant and, despite an optimistic triple substitution by Jones on the hour, were rarely threatened.

The Seagulls made the win comprehensive when Ash converted from the spot on 76 minutes to complete his brace after Scott Davies brought down Grubb in the area.

Speaking after the game, manager Jones said: "I'm very disappointed with the performance today.



• Oxford City striker Jefferson Louis had a frustrating afternoon
Picture: Michael Allen

I thought we weren't tight enough all over the pitch and the whole performance wasn't good enough to get a positive result at this level.

"If you look through the whole team there certainly weren't many 8/10s and I feel we were beaten by the better side.

"There were a couple of mistakes there for the goals we gave away and if you're making mistakes and encouraging the opposition like we

were then it's going to be a tough afternoon.

"Overall, it's a bad day at the office and we didn't deserve anything from the game.

"We want to get it right. I'm passionate to do well and I didn't see that same passion and commitment."

The Hoops are looking to get back to winning ways when they host lowly Whitehawk at Court Place Farm on Saturday.

Irish eyes are smiling after last-minute winner

Didcot Town

A GOAL at the death denied Didcot Town an impressive point against high-flying Taunton Town in an entertaining 3-2 defeat on Tuesday.

A late winner from Owen Irish five minutes from time condemned Diddy to their fifth defeat in six matches as third-placed Taunton twice fought back from behind to record their 18th win in 22 games.

Louis Joyce first fired the Railway-

men into an 18th minute lead after collecting a smart ball from George Reid, but they were pegged back six minutes later when Craig Veal found the bottom corner for the Peacocks.

Didcot took the lead for the second time on the hour via a Ben Whitehead penalty but, again, the visitors levelled the tie, this time through Ollie Chamberlain.

Taunton had the chance to complete the comeback on 80 minutes from the spot, but Diddy keeper Leigh Bedwell saved from Jordan Rogers.

The Peacocks' turnaround was achieved in the dying minutes however as Irish fired home to kill Diddy off.

Didcot, who are still waiting to hear the outcome of Saturday's abandoned game against runaway leaders Hereford on Saturday, slipped to 14th in Division 1 South & West as their long, winless run since Boxing Day continues.

Andy Ballard's side host 18th placed Slimbridge, who have won their last two games, on Saturday.

Millers' play-off charge takes a double blow

North Leigh

NORTH Leigh's ambitious play-off hopes continue to disintegrate after falling to back-to-back league defeats for the first time since October.

The Millers' winless run was stretched to four Division 1 South & West games after wounding defeats this week to other play-off contenders Tiverton Town and Mangotsfield United.

First, Leigh were hammered 4-1 at Tiverton on Saturday where the Devon side ran riot.

Leading 3-0 at half time, Tivvy were 4-0 up before Andy Gunn scored a consolation goal for Leigh on 80 minutes.

A Levi Landricombe double and further strikes from Jamie Short and Michael Landricombe did the damage in a disappointing afternoon for John Brough's side.

But the disappointment didn't end there as the Millers slipped to a 3-2 defeat at home to Mangotsfield on Tuesday.

The Mangos held a commanding 2-0 lead at half time, with Lewis Powell scoring his 99th goal for the club

and Liam Monelle netting on the cusp of half-time.

Mitch Tippins made it 3-0 in the 56th minute to make sure the three points went back to south Gloucestershire.

But it wasn't without a scare - Roger James and Michael Hopkins both scored in the last 10 minutes for the Millers to set up a tense finale.

The damaging losses mean Leigh slip to 11th and 14 points off the play-offs with at least two games in hand on all the teams above them.

They host 10th-placed Wimborne Town at Eynsham Park on Saturday.



• Zac McEachran doubles Banbury's lead on the cusp of half time

Picture: E.A. Barson Photography

Banbury survive onslaught

Banbury United

TWO first half goals and a superb battling second half display under heavy pressure earned Banbury United a valuable 2-1 win at fellow play-off chasers Frome Town on Saturday.

United, who are no strangers to early goals, scored after just two minutes on a heavy Special Effect Stadium pitch thanks to a Ricky Johnson strike.

The sticky surface didn't stop the forward though, and he fired low past Kyle Phillips in the Frome goal from 12 yards to put the Puritans ahead.

Mike Ford's side dominated the first half and could have doubled the lead when Zac McEachran and Eddie Odhiambo tested the Frome defence.

But McEachran would fare better deep into first half stoppage time when he knocked home from six yards when Frome failed to clear a Tom Winters corner.

But the second half was to be a different story and, while in the first 45 minutes United dominated offensively, they had to show their defensive capabilities as Town threw the proverbial kitchen sink at the north Oxfordshire side.

Frome piled the pressure on Banbury. It was one-way traffic as United contested an upward pitch in draining conditions.

Frome did pull one back just before the hour when Clayton Green nodded in from a corner.

There was no let-up for the visitors' defence but they defended with commitment to keep the home side out to record their first back-to-back wins in the league since the start of January.

Ford's side, who sit sixth, one place and eight points off the play-offs with a game in hand, welcome second bottom Cirencester Town to the Banbury Plant Hire Community Stadium on Saturday.

Women fans are quids in



• Female United supporters who travelled down to Frome on Saturday

AN OXFORDSHIRE non-league club is attempting to attract new women supporters by offering match tickets for £1.

Southern Premier League side Banbury United is supporting the 'Women at the Game' initiative, timed to mark International Women's Day, which fell on Wednesday.

Women and girls can watch the Puritans, who play at the seventh tier of English football, take on Cirencester Town on Saturday for the special reduced price.

Women at the Game is the brainchild of Jacqui Forster, who has helped clubs like Banbury United in her former role at Supporters Direct to become fan-owned football clubs.

The aim is for women of all ages,

backgrounds, ethnicity, ability and religious belief to feel welcome and comfortable attending sports events, particularly men's football, the club said.

Banbury United communications director David Shadbolt said: "While we already have a number of women who come to our games on a regular basis, we are keen to join in this initiative and for more to enjoy games at the Banbury Plant Hire Community Stadium.

"We are delighted to give the opportunity for all women and girls to attend Saturday's game against Cirencester Town for just £1.

"We will be working hard on the day so that women, some of whom have perhaps never been to a live game, feel welcome and enjoy the match."

Ruthless Pirates cut through U's defence

By George Welch

A TOUGH afternoon for a depleted Oxford United saw their impressive run of form rudely interrupted as two first half goals ensured rivals Bristol Rovers completed the double over the U's.

Goals from Ollie Clarke (16) and Stuart Sinclair (36) before the break sent Rovers on their way to a vital three points to leapfrog their hosts in the League One table on Saturday.

But Oxford were severely weakened with injuries to influential players Chris Maguire (thigh), Rob Hall (hamstring), Curtis Nelson (ankle) and Kane Hemmings (dead leg).

The U's had won 11 of their previous 14 matches in all competitions but boss Michael Appleton couldn't even name a striker on the bench and included three right backs.

United fell behind and struggled to galvanise a recovery.

Rovers midfielder Clarke struck a fine opening goal when he cut in from the right edge of the penalty area and curled a shot just inside the far post from 16 yards.

United's in-form forward Conor McAleny struck the post before the Pirates doubled their lead when Sinclair capitalised on some poor defending 10 minutes before the break to fire low past Simon Eastwood for his first goal of the season.

Appleton replaced left back Joe Skarz with midfielder Joe Rothwell at the break but the U's failed to claw their way back into the contest and Darrell Clarke's side left the Kassam Stadium with maximum points.

Rovers, who won the return fixture 2-1 in August, are eight unbeaten, up to ninth and seven points off the play-offs.



• Conor McAleny runs into Ryan Sweeney
Pictures: Steve Daniels



• Chey Dunkley clears the ball under pressure from Ollie Clarke

Checkatrade Trophy final tickets on sale

EXCITEMENT continues to build for Oxford United fans as tickets for the U's second trip to Wembley in as many years go on sale to the general public tomorrow morning.

United earned their place in the final of the Checkatrade Trophy and another chance to play at the home of football on April 2 after beating League Two Luton Town 3-2 at Kenilworth Road.

The U's went 2-0 up through Phil Edwards (10) and a Paul Ruddock own goal (69) before the hosts fought back with Isaac Vassell (72) and former U Danny Hylton (82).

But United retaliated instantly and magnificent Marvin Johnson scored the winner with a left-footed 20-yard curler with five minutes to go.

The win sets up an intriguing final against struggling League One side

Coventry City who this week sacked manager Russell Slade and reappointed Mark Robins.

United have said that tickets "are selling well" after being made available to season ticket holders and are expected to be snapped up when they go on general sale.

Tickets are available at tinyurl.com/juxh4qf and 0844 453 9015 from 8am tomorrow.

Defender agrees new one-year deal with U's

OXFORD United defender Sam Long became the second local lad to commit his future to the club in four days by signing a new one-year deal with the U's.

The versatile defender, who came through the club's youth development programme during his 13 years at the club, joins Josh Ruffels in agreeing a 12 month extension to his deal at the U's.

Long, who has only made six appearances so far this season, said: "I'm glad to have the opportunity."

"It has been a bit frustrating for me this season with a couple of injuries but I am fit and raring to go again now and feel very much part of the squad and what we are trying to build here."

"It is up to me to train hard, wait for an opportunity and then play my heart out to try and stay in the team."

"Obviously as a local lad it is great to be involved and there are some

massive games coming up for us this season."

Head coach Michael Appleton added: "Sam has an outstanding attitude and like Josh Ruffels is a key member of the squad."

"He can play in a few positions and is improving all the time."

"He has had to be a bit patient but he will get his chance at some stage and we know he will take it with both hands when that happens."

Young strikers James Roberts and Jordan Graham have left the club to join Stalybridge Celtic and Farnborough respectively on loan.

Reserve goalkeeper Benji Buchel joined League Two Barnet for a week on an emergency loan after an injury crisis among the keepers at the Hive.

The Liechtenstein international linked up with the Bees on Saturday and played in their 1-0 defeat at Accrington Stanley.

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Sheffield United	36	27	72
2	Fleetwood Town	35	20	64
3	Scunthorpe United	36	21	61
4	Bolton Wanderers	34	17	60
5	Bradford City	36	13	59
6	Millwall	35	9	58

7	Southend United	35	10	54
8	Walsall	36	0	52
9	Bristol Rovers	36	0	51
10	Peterborough United	36	1	50
11	Oxford United	34	6	49
12	Rochdale	33	2	49
13	AFC Wimbledon	35	2	47
14	Charlton Athletic	36	4	45
15	MK Dons	35	0	43
16	Northampton Town	36	-7	43
17	Gillingham	36	-10	42
18	Shrewsbury Town	36	-11	42
19	Bury	36	-10	40
20	Oldham Athletic	36	-13	39

21	Swindon Town	36	-15	36
22	Port Vale	33	-17	35
23	Chesterfield	36	-25	31
24	Coventry	35	-24	26

OUFC women stung by London Bees

A DISASTROUS opening 30 minutes from Oxford United Women against London Bees on Sunday meant their search for a first three points of the season continues.

A horror half-hour saw United go 3-0 down in 27 minutes to the buzzing London side to stun the U's at the Hive.

Hana Lalani (6), Emma Beckett (16), and Ashleigh Goddard (27) strikes blitzed Oxford to earn a comprehensive 3-0 lead and send United on their way to their first defeat under their new boss Andy Cook.

The only real bright spark for the Yellows came in the 88th minute when striker Ini Umotong struck home - but the damage was done long before the U's consolation.

The result means Oxford have lost two and drawn one of their Spring Series matches.

Any plans of a positive start for Oxford were banished after just a few minutes when Lalani ran past a couple of stranded Oxford defenders to slot a tidy finish into the far post.

United responded well with efforts from Umotong, Emily Donovan and Ellie Noble going close.

But the Bees brushed their visitors aside when Beckett headed home from a 14th minute free kick and Goddard dipped an effort beyond Demi Lambourne in the Oxford goal.

New signing Taomé Oliver made her debut for Oxford on the hour mark, as the game transitioned into a midfield battle.

Two long-range strikes from Noble were the only source of action as both teams tired before Umotong scored with just two minutes remaining.

Oxford continue their hunt for a first win of the Spring Series as they host Aston Villa on Sunday.



• Ini Umotong in action for Oxford United Women against London Bees
Picture: Ian Randall Photography



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Blades too sharp for U's

Oxford United 2
Sheffield United 3



• Chey Dunkley heads
United into the lead
Picture: Steve Daniels

By George Welch

OXFORD United's optimistic play-off ambitions were dealt a major blow as former U's boss Chris Wilder lead his Sheffield United side to a 3-2 win on Tuesday.

Billy Sharp scored twice as the runaway League One leaders came from behind at the Kassam Stadium to extend their unbeaten run to seven games and complete the double over Oxford.

The U's, who have now lost their last three matches at the Kassam, were

good value for their half time lead thanks to a Chey Dunkley header.

But Michael Appleton's side were outgunned after the break when a brace from the goal-hungry Sharp and a Kieron Freeman effort gave the champions elect maximum points, despite a fine injury time finish from Toni Martinez.

The U's gambled by including the injury-struck Kane Hemmings, Rob Hall, Chris Maguire and Curtis Nelson after they had been rated 50/50 in the build up.

And the gamble looked to have paid

off as the hosts started strongly with Conor McAleny going close with a 12th-minute shot.

The Yellows began to dominate as Dunkley and Nelson both went close before they finally took the lead on 22 minutes.

Crucially, former Yellows captain Jake Wright was off the pitch receiving treatment when Maguire swung in a wicked delivery from a corner for towering defender Dunkley to nod the U's in front.

The Blades were neat in possession but had rarely threatened Simon East-

wood in the Oxford goal.

That was until Sharp, as he often does, created space for himself when Oxford failed to clear a corner and forced the ball past Eastwood from eight yards.

Throwing caution to the wind the U's went for the win, but they fell behind on 72 minutes when Freeman ghosted in at the back post and, although he tried to square the ball, it floated inside the far post instead.

Five minutes later and it was 3-1 when Freeman was tripped in the box by a mistimed Nelson challenge.

Sharp did the rest from the spot to cap a fine Blades comeback and increase his League One tally to 26 goals.

The Yellows kept going but substitute Martinez's first league goal to make the scoreline a more respectable 3-2 for the club was too little too late.

The defeat to Sheffield United, coupled with Saturday's defeat at home to Bristol Rovers, sees Appleton's side slip to 11th in the table after their first back-to-back defeats since August.

The U's face two away games as they travel to Peterborough on Saturday before visiting Oldham on Tuesday.

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